



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Daily Report

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LD2110130988 [Editorial Report]

Lebanon

Israeli Raids—Israeli aircraft raided "terrorist" targets in the Sidon and western Al-Biqa' areas 21 October, Jerusalem radio announced.

The attacks hit an ammunition depot near Sidon, sparking off explosions, as well as Hizballah outposts and an ammunition depot near Mashgharah.

Cobra helicopters and an F-15 warplane also fired missiles at targets in Maydun and Al-Luwayzah.

Beirut radio reported that 36 people were killed or wounded in the raids on Palestinian and Hizballah targets.

AFP cited reports that at least 24 people were killed or wounded in the raids on Hizballah targets in western Al-Biqa' and that 10 Fatah members were killed or wounded in the strike on the PLO ammunition dump near Sidon.

A "huge" explosion was heard for miles around when air-to-surface missiles slammed into the Fatah depot near Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp, the agency noted.

Meanwhile, Muslim gunmen clashed with South Lebanese Army (SLA) forces on combat lines east of Sidon, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon disclosed.

In earlier reportage on developments following the suicide attack on IDF soldiers, Jerusalem radio noted that the SLA radio station was damaged by the car bomb explosion and its broadcasts halted.

The SLA arrested five Shi'ite inhabitants of the security zone on suspicion of complicity in assembling the bomb, the radio said.

According to IDF radio, it is "almost certain" that the bomb was constructed inside the security zone.

IDF inquiries indicate that the attack was "almost unavoidable" and that there was no blunder which allowed it to happen, the radio said.

Beirut radio spoke of a "wave of hysteria" among the Israeli forces in the wake of the suicide attack, adding that the IDF and SLA closed crossing points into the security zone and arrested "hundreds" of people.

The radio cited a warning by Hizballah that any Israeli retaliation will have an "adverse effect" on Israeli captives held by Hizballah.

The Hizballah spokesman said this also applies to four SLA prisoners it is holding, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Political Developments—Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr announced that he is willing to visit Syria if this will contribute toward resolving the present crisis, Beirut radio reported.

He warned against any resumption of fighting between the rival militias.

However, Radio Free Lebanon accused Syria of arming "extremists" in preparation for an attack on the East Beirut area.

In Syria, Damascus radio cited statements by Lebanese nationalist and PNSF leaders denouncing the "suspect 'A'n-Ja'ja'-Saddam alliance" and the station broadcast a commentary accusing Iraq of seeking to partition Lebanon through supplying arms to the "Zionist factions."

For Iraq's part, INA carried a statement by Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz alleging that Syria is destroying Lebanese institutions and pushing the country toward partition by insisting on holding the presidential election in a location controlled by its forces.

Palestinian Affairs

PNC—A PLO spokesman announced that the PNC will convene in Algiers 12 November, Algiers radio reported, noting that this announcement followed a PLO Executive Committee meeting in Tunis.

Palestinian sources cited by Radio Monte Carlo said the PNC will consider a draft communique that will implicitly recognize Israel's right to exist on condition that this is coupled with recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

Occupied Territories—Five Palestinians were wounded by IDF gunfire during clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip 20 October, according to Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq: POW Issue

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry message to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) confirmed Iraq is willing to start an exchange of POW's on condition that Iran reciprocates.

Noting this is a humanitarian move in response to an ICRC request, the message stressed this is not linked with the other issues contained in UN Security Council Resolution 598 and it "does not affect the implementation of the resolution according to the sequence of its paragraphs."

The Iraqi message was transmitted by INA, which also carried the text of the ICRC's letter appealing to both sides to make arrangements for the repatriation of POW's as soon as possible for humanitarian reasons.

However, an Iranian Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio reaffirmed Iran's view that a POW exchange should take place within the framework of the UN secretary general's four-point proposal to fulfill Article 1 of Resolution 598.

Instead of adopting tactics to "avoid" Iraqi public opinion, the Iraqi regime should cooperate with the secretary general and sincerely pursue the implementation of the resolution, the statement said.

The Iranian statement nevertheless acknowledged the "humane aspect of exchanging POW's and the necessity to implement this as soon as possible," adding that Iran is therefore fully prepared to release further batches of injured and infirm prisoners "immediately after a response in kind by Iraq."

The Foreign Ministry also urged Iraq to allow the ICRC to register all Iranian POW's in Iraq to speed up progress on the issue.

Iranian Diplomacy

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati discussed the Iran-Iraq peace talks during a meeting with Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad, Tehran radio reported.

The Pakistani leader reportedly expressed support for Iran's view that the Iran-Iraq border is delineated by the 1975 Algiers agreement.

Another Iranian envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, held talks with the Libyan foreign liaison secretary in Tripoli, according to JANA.

The talks covered regional developments and ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation, JANA added.

In Tehran, Iranian leaders held talks with a visiting GDR parliamentary delegation, IRNA noted.

Egypt

Foreign Affairs—In an AL-AHRAM interview cited by MENA, President Husni Mubarak contended that Egypt's differences with Syria are "tactical" rather than "strategic" and called for "direct communication and dialogue between the two sides on all issues of common concern."

On Egypt's role in the Arab-Israeli conflict, "informed" sources in Cairo cited by London's AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asserted that Egypt recently informed Israeli authorities of its "utter refusal" to enter into bilateral negotiations over peace arrangements in the occupied territories.

Responding to an Israeli Labor Party plan to demilitarize the Gaza Strip, Egypt reportedly told Israel that the final status of these areas must be decided at an international conference.

Restrictions on Al-Rayyan—Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi issued an order banning the Al-Rayyan investment and finance companies from disposing of their assets without official approval, according to MENA.

The order also freezes the personal assets of the Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah brothers who own the Al-Rayyan group.

Afghanistan

Two people were killed and two wounded in a 20 October rocket attack on the capital by "criminal extremists," Kabul radio announced.

AFP noted that the barrage of rockets caused Kabul Airport to close for the second consecutive day.

Meanwhile, a special national security court sentenced two people to death and two others to 20-year prison terms for their involvement in a recent bomb attack in the capital, Kabul radio disclosed.

On the situation in the provinces, the radio reported that government forces killed 256 rebels and injured 228 during recent operations in Qandahar and Zabol Provinces, claiming that the Armed Forces in Qandahar are inflicting "decisive blows" on the opposition.

The radio also stated that a U.S. citizen was among seven foreign advisers to the rebels who were killed in a mine explosion in Zabol Province.

A mujahidin news agency in Islamabad contended that President Najibullah is suffering from grave kidney trouble but is unwilling to go abroad for treatment because he fears this will allow his rivals to overthrow him, according to XINHUA.

Palestinian Affairs

PLO Spokesman Says PNC To Convene 12 Nov

*JN2010181988 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1715 GMT 20 Oct 88*

[Text] PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman has stated that the PNC will hold its extraordinary session in the Algerian capital on 12 November and that this session will be devoted to the uprising in the occupied territories.

Well-informed Palestinian sources said that the 453 PNC members will discuss a declaration of independence that will only affirm the Palestinians' right to establish a state.

The sources added a draft political communique will be submitted to the PNC that will implicitly recognize Israel's right to exist on condition this is coupled with a legal recognition of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

The same sources said that the PLO Executive Committee will propose to the PNC to task the 90-member PLO Central Council with the formation of a provisional government if an international Middle East peace conference is inaugurated.

On the other hand, the PLO will reaffirm its abidance by the Cairo Declaration that Yasir 'Arafat issued in 1985.

The well-informed Palestinian sources said the draft political communique will comprise the same stands that Yasir 'Arafat announced in his recent speech at the European Parliament.

This means the PLO will ask for peace negotiations on the basis of UN resolutions on the Palestinian cause, including Resolutions 242 and 338, but on condition they are coupled with recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

EEC Support Asked To Break Israeli 'Blockade'

*LD2010233688 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 20 Oct 88*

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, called on the EEC to continue its support for the citizens of the occupied territories to break the Israeli economic blockade.

This was stated in a meeting held by Yasir 'Arafat with Claude Cheysson, EEC commissioner in charge of relations with Mediterranean countries, after his arrival in Tunis.

The Palestinian news agency said the talks covered a number of political issues concerned with developments in the Palestinian cause and the situation in the Middle East.

DFLP's Hawatimah on Moscow Talks, Stands

*JN2010203988 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic
19 Oct 88 p 26*

[By Salam Musafir]

[Text] Moscow—A ranking Palestinian official has told AL-ANBA' in Moscow that the talks a DFLP delegation held with Soviet officials dealt with many important and serious issues.

In an interview with AL-ANBA', DFLP Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah said the talks dealt with the means that will open new vistas for the uprising to enable it to speed up the convocation of an international conference and secure our people's right to independence.

Hawatimah, who held talks with Soviet Foreign Ministry and CPSU Central Committee officials, said the talks also dealt with the political decisions that are being formulated and the attempt to seek common denominators among all the PLO factions based on UN resolutions and international legitimacy to secure a comprehensive and just solution and reject partial and separate solutions, the latest being Shultz' plan and Palestinian documents, such as those of Bassam Abu Sharif and Al-Husayni calling for separate Israeli-Palestinian solutions under a U.S. aegis.

Hawatimah, who left Moscow for Bulgaria at dawn yesterday, said:

We agreed with the Soviet comrades that it is wrong either to offer gratuitous concessions to the enemies or to make the PLO accept the 1980 Venice Declaration, which seeks to propose Resolution No 242 and the right to self-determination as the basis for a political settlement in the Middle East.

This will curtail the PLO's program consisting of the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state and will lead to the cancellation of the right to repatriation enunciated in UN Resolution No 194 as well as the right to an independent state.

This will leave the door open to solutions that are less than a independent state and to the Jordanian option or the readoption of a formula similar to the Amman agreement that was abrogated in April 1987 following 3 years of struggle against it.

Hawatimah said: Western Europe and some Arab parties are now applying pressure for the PLO to adopt political resolutions within the framework of the Venice Declaration—that is, the recognition only of Resolution No 242 and the right to self-determination.

Hawatimah added: Our talks with the Soviets emphasized the need not to submit to these pressures or fall into a trap, so that the right to repatriation will not be sacrificed because the right to self-determination does not include the right to repatriation.

It is also impermissible to sacrifice the independent state because the expression self-determination opens the door wide to all eventualities such as autonomy or the federal and confederal solution in accordance with the Jordanian option, while the uprising insists on the right to repatriation and self-determination through the establishment of an independent state.

The people of the uprising cannot accept anything less than this.

Hawatimah said:

For this reason, all the factions within the PLO must stand fast in the face of the pressures Washington is exerting and must oppose its request to the PLO to recognize Resolution No 242 and Israel and to disavow violence.

In other words, Washington is asking for the uprising to halt without anything in return.

The PLO factions must also resist pressure from Western Europe to keep the door open to solutions that are less than the Palestinian state and to reopen the door to the Jordanian option.

Hawatimah added that the Soviet side has reiterated its firm commitment to its principled support.

The Soviet side has also reiterated that a comprehensive and just solution in the Middle East cannot be established only on the basis of Resolution No 242 or ambiguous formulas but also on the Palestinian people's right to repatriation and independence on the basis of international legitimacy.

Moreover, Palestinian legitimacy cannot be divided and the Palestinians cannot be asked to make concessions that concede their legitimate rights.

Hawatimah said:

In our talks, we affirmed that the PNC extraordinary session will declare the establishment of an independent state as the Algerian National Liberation Front declared the Algerian Republic in September 1958.

Hawatimah added: Senior Soviet officials whom our delegation met in Moscow affirmed to us Moscow will support the decision to be made by the PLO in the extraordinary PNC session on the basis of an agreement among all major factions.

Soviet comrades affirmed to us their concern for the PLO's unity, which constitutes a strategic gain for the Palestinian people and the major source of the uprising.

Had it not been for the PLO's unity in April 1987, the uprising would have come late.

Hawatimah said:

Our talks with the Soviet side dealt with the issue of the provisional government. We saw that the PNC forms this government.

If an agreement on this cannot be reached, an agreement must be reached on the political and organizational principles of this government.

The political program should stem from the program of repatriation, self-determination, a comprehensive solution, and the establishment of an independent state.

The political resolutions to be issued by the extraordinary session should be based on international legitimacy and the government should be formed from the broad national coalition represented by the PLO and under the control of the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee.

The government should also be formed from these two institutions at the appropriate time.

We agreed it would be a mistake to reach an agreement on the principle of forming a government only and not on its bases.

This would leave the door open to the formation of a government from outside the PLO in response to pressures from Western quarters under the pretext of forming a moderate government to be accepted by the West.

We should avoid pressures to separate it from the PLO and open the door to anything less than an independent state.

Hawatimah said:

The Soviets affirmed to us that the proclamation of a Palestinian state and government is an internal Palestinian affair.

They also affirmed that Moscow will respect the Palestinian decision agreed upon by the Palestinian factions.

Hawatimah added:

With regard to an international conference, the report submitted by the UN secretary general to the UN General Assembly on 12 October was discussed—the report in which he affirmed the need to hold the international conference in accordance with UN Resolution No 309/42 calling for an international peace conference in the Middle East on the basis of the UN resolution

recognizing the Palestinian people's right to repatriation and self-determination and calling for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory.

The conference should lay down arrangements for peace and security in the region's states. The UN secretary general's report notes that the United States alone still opposes [the international conference] and insists on the Shultz plan.

The report also notes that all Middle Eastern countries expressed through direct messages their approval of the call for an international conference except Israel, which still insists on direct and separate negotiations.

Hawatimah added:

The Soviet Union sees in the secretary general's report a step that refers to the need to treat the volatile situation in the Middle East.

Soviet officials have affirmed the need to begin the proceedings of the preparatory committee under the auspices of the UN secretary general.

They also referred to the French stand, which seeks to begin the proceedings of the preparatory committee.

The Soviets have asserted to us their unequivocal condemnation of all bilateral and individual solutions. They also referred to a number of Palestinian statements speaking of bilateral solutions.

They described them as free gifts to the line of Washington and Tel Aviv in the Middle East.

Hawatimah said:

The Soviet comrades have praised the great Palestinian uprising. They consider it the most comprehensive democratic process to be witnessed by a struggling people under occupation from World War II until now.

They also think the uprising has imposed on international conscience the need to make a move to resolve the Middle East conflict according to the principle of the balance of interests and in a way guaranteeing the Palestinian people's rights and their national right to apply the UN resolutions relating to the Palestine question.

Answering a question on the truth of the rumors Moscow is advising the PLO to postpone the proclamation of the state and the government, the Palestinian official said:

These rumors, from the Western media, are totally untrue.

We must put our finger on the real objective, which is to create a rift between our Soviet friends and us to help the pressures applied by Western quarters against the PLO to make it back down from its phased program and make resolutions with the maximum being [UN Security Council] Resolution 242 and the right to self-determination as a basis for settlement in the Middle East.

He added: The clear, direct objective of this untrue rumor is to mislead the Palestinian people on the one hand and distort the friendly Soviet stand on the other.

It also aims to justify Western pressures against the proclamation of the state and the government and to push the PLO into recognizing Resolution No 242 and self-determination as the ceiling [for the PLO demands], while the UN resolutions, including Resolutions No 605, 607, and 608, affirm the right to repatriation and a independent state.

These resolutions affirm that the occupied territories are Palestinian and that Israel must withdraw from them and apply the fourth Geneva convention with its implications.

They also affirm the need to convene an effective international conference. The resolutions of the Fes and Algiers [Arab] summits, which are based on international legitimacy, also affirm this fact.

Algeria

Bendjedid, Islamic Trend Delegation Confer
PM2010151988 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 20 Oct 88 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Exclusive: Bendjedid Met With Islamic Trend Leaders"]

[Excerpt] Algiers, London—A responsible source from the Islamic Trend leadership in Algeria has revealed that on 10 October, after the outbreak of the recent disturbances, President Chadli Bendjedid received a delegation including three prominent Islamic figures.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the source quoted these leaders as saying that they were very satisfied with the atmosphere which prevailed at the meeting.

The source, who asked not to be identified, said that it was agreed during the meeting that the first step toward reform and rectification should be the restoration of security and stability in Algeria and the protection of the state's public utilities, after which current problems would begin to be tackled.

He said that the delegation, which included Sheikh Sahnoun, Sheikh Ali Belhaj, and Sheikh Mahfouz Nahnah, submitted a number of proposals to President Bendjedid including a revision of the economic plan, efforts to combat the misappropriation of public funds, and the scrapping of allocations for leisure projects.

The delegation urged the granting of public freedoms, the revision of education programs, and the establishment of Islam as the main basis of all future reform programs.

The source emphasized that the Islamic Trend expressed its rejection of all the acts of violence and sabotage which accompanied the recent disturbances in Algeria.

He told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the deterioration of economic and living conditions in the country did not justify the recent anarchy and the great loss of life in Algeria.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that Sheikh Mahfouz Nahnah, leader of one of the main Islamic groups, assured President Bendjedid of his full support for the reform and revision policy started some time ago and told him that the Islamic Trend would contribute enthusiastically to the efforts made to crown the next-phase programs with success in light of President Bendjedid's adherence to Arabization and to Algeria's Islamic identity. [passage omitted]

Egypt

Israeli Plan on Occupied Territories Rejected
PM2010155388 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 20 Oct 88 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Informed Cairo Sources Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Egypt Conveys to Israel Its Refusal To Hold Bilateral Negotiations on Partial Settlement"]

[Excerpt] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau—Informed diplomatic sources have confirmed to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Egypt recently conveyed to Israel its utter refusal to enter into any bilateral negotiations on peace arrangements in some parts of the occupied Arab territories whether under new settlement plans or under the Camp David agreements.

The sources said that, in response to the Shim'on Peres plan to give up the Gaza Strip and declare it a demilitarized zone if the Labor Party wins the election and is able to form a Labor government, Egypt told Israel that the final status of these areas must be decided at an international conference with the participation of the PLO and the people of these areas.

The sources added that Egypt stressed to Israel that, although there are positive signs in the Peres position, Israel should clearly declare that it accepts the idea of an international conference and should begin talks on arrangements convening such a conference with the participation of all parties concerned.

Meanwhile, according to Egyptian diplomatic reports, Peres assured Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid during their Washington meeting that the Israeli Labor Party intends, immediately after the Israeli election, to prepare a draft plan for a settlement that would as a basis exclude annexation of the occupied territories and specify the areas which should remain under Israeli sovereignty in any settlement. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid Discusses Tabah Ruling
NC2010193488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1520 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Egypt yesterday officially notified the president of the Tabah arbitration tribunal in Geneva of its commitment to implementing the panel's verdict on Tabah.

Ambassador Nabil al-'Arabi handed the notice to the tribunal's president.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said this official notice serves to prove our goodwill and to preserve our rights in accordance with the arbitration panel's verdict and the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, and in implementation of Article 13 of the arbitral compromise.

This notice, he said, will keep the tribunal in open session for 45 days to discuss the procedures pertinent to the verdict's implementation.

'Abd al-Majid pointed out that had Egypt not submitted this notice within the specified time, the court would have adjourned.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the president of the arbitration panel is expected to invite the panel to a meeting within the remaining 9 days to decide what they deem is fitting.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed the hope that the Israeli Government will respond positively to remarks made by some of its officials, so that the ruling may be implemented quickly and with goodwill.

He noted that this will reflect positively on relations between Egypt and Israel.

He added: I have previously notified the U.S. and Israeli ambassadors in Cairo of the measure we took on 19 October.

He pointed out that the ruling by the arbitration panel represents the proper application of international law in general and the principle of peacefully settling disputes stipulated by Article 33 of the UN Charter in particular.

At a press conference this afternoon, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said the task of the arbitration tribunal was exclusively to determine the location of 14 border markets on the internationally recognized borders between Egypt and the Palestine Mandate.

The ruling, therefore, uncovers and does not create. In other words, the tribunal does not create a new situation, but instead uncovers a situation which had actually existed and had been recognized on the international level during the British mandate of Palestine.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid continued: Article 14 of the arbitral compromise stipulates that Egypt and Israel should agree on accepting the tribunal's ruling as a final and binding one and accordingly undertake to implement it with goodwill as soon as possible in accordance with the peace treaty.

Article 13 of the compromise stipulates that any difference over the interpretation of the ruling's implementation should be referred to the tribunal for further explanation, should either party so request within 30 days of the ruling's announcement.

The parties should agree on the date of implementation within 21 days, and the arbitration panel should seek to present its explanation panel within 45 days of such a request. These explanations will be regarded as part of the ruling.

At the conference, Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that several communications were exchanged between the Egyptian and the Israeli sides, as well as with the Americans who signed as witnesses to the arbitral compromise, after the announcement of the arbiters' verdict.

On 10 October, the Israeli ambassador in Cairo was notified, as was stipulated in an official memorandum, that according to the arbitral compromise, Egypt and Israel are obliged to accept the ruling and undertake to implement it with goodwill, and that Egypt will honor this commitment clearly.

The foreign minister noted that the U.S. ambassador in Cairo has received a copy of the cited memorandum.

He revealed that on 14 October, the Israeli ambassador in Cairo informed the Egyptian Government that in view of the elections, the Israeli Government has not been able to make a decision on the Egyptian memorandum dated 10 October 1988, which is still under consideration.

The ambassador also said that the Israeli Government will arrange a meeting with the Egyptians to discuss the ruling's implementation.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that remarks made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres indicate that they respect the tribunal's ruling and are committed to implementing it. He said that similar remarks were made by a number of Israeli officials.

'Abd al-Majid said: We appreciate these Israeli stands respecting the ruling.

However, in implementation of Article 13 of the arbitral compromise and to preserve our right within the 21-days time limit, we had to officially present the tribunal with our views on respecting and implementing the ruling and with our request that the panel undertake its responsibilities according to the arbitral compromise.

In his statement, Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted the distinctive approach to the Tabah issue, saying that the prime minister issued a decree to form the ad hoc higher national committee on Tabah on 13 May 1985.

He added that the committee acted in the spirit of the team, enlisting the help of an elite group of specialists who handled the political, legal, geographical and historical aspects of the issue.

We obtained invaluable documents from several foreign sources which confirmed Egypt's right to Tabah, he said.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid also said that the state's competent authorities established excellent coordination among them and employed efficient Egyptians who all participated in defending a national cause.

He stated that the political leadership, represented by President Husni Mubarak, followed up the progress of the ad hoc committee closely.

His excellency's directives and his firm determination to not abandon a single inch of our beloved soil has been an invaluable contribution to the success we cherish, Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded.

Shamir Threatens To 'Exterminate' Palestinians
*NC2010101488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0802 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA)—AL-AHRAM denounces Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's statements in which he threatens to exterminate the entire Palestinian people in return for his reelection.

The paper says that, while it is not unusual, during the exercise of election oneupmanship, for a candidate to voice exaggerated promises and to direct hints and threats at his opponents which include inordinate charges and claims, we never have heard of a candidate who has threatened to exterminate an entire nation.

In its editorial today, the paper says that, in the heat of the Israeli election campaign, Shamir was carried away by defiance.

It adds that he was driven to the farthest limit of extremism in his quest for office, without realizing that he loses his human soul in the eyes of the world by this action.

The paper remarks that Shamir made this announcement in his official capacity as prime minister, adding that he apparently did not refer to the true underlying causes of the stonethrowing uprising.

AL-AHRAM adds that he also did not give any justification for his forces' excessive use of all kinds of weapons against the demonstrating youths. It notes that this action has aroused the conscience of the Israelis themselves.

Shamir, the paper says, has not even explained why his forces have been unable to suppress the uprising during the past 10 months.

He simply threatened further brutal escalation not against individuals but against at least 1.5 million Palestinian citizens who, the whole world acknowledges, constitute an entire integrated nation.

In conclusion, the paper says that if Israel were established primarily under claims of suffering and the extermination campaigns which the Jews experienced at the hands of the

Nazis then, perhaps, Shamir's threat to exterminate the Palestinians might be a precursor of their imminent attainment of their right to a Palestinian state.

Navy Commander Comments on Arab Exercises
*NC2010235088 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Excerpts] Alexandria, 20 Oct (MENA)—Vice Admiral Muhammad Sharif al-Sadiq, commander of the Navy, has expressed Egypt's willingness to hold joint exercises with the fleets of fraternal Arab countries to attain Arab security in the Red Sea, resulting in collective Arab security.

At a news conference he held today at celebrations for the naval anniversary falling on Friday, 21 October, when the anniversary of the sinking of the Israeli destroyer "Eilat" is also marked, the Navy commander urged that responsibilities be divided among the Arab countries and that joint exercises be held to achieve collective naval security.

He pointed out there are no obstacles to prevent this, remarking that the Red Sea includes the Egyptian and Saudi fleets and smaller naval units belonging to Jordan, Sudan, and North and South Yemen.

Vice Admiral Muhammad Sharif al-Sadiq noted that our naval forces conduct exercises with various advanced countries.

He said, "We have carried out joint maneuvers with the U.S. 6th Fleet, the Italian fleet, and the French fleet.

On the naval forces' role in protecting the Egyptian coast against contamination, the Navy commander said this is a new task which was added to the naval forces' duties last year.

He pointed out that the Defense Ministry, the Foreign and Interior Ministries, and the environment protection utility coordinated to react readily upon receiving reports on the presence of any ship carrying nuclear material in the Mediterranean.

The naval forces receive reports from the countries operating such ships, from international organizations, and from other sources on the ship type, nationality, name, and the kind of material it carries, he added. [passage omitted]

Upon discovering of such ships in territorial waters, Al-Sadiq said, the naval forces intercept it and guide it away from our coast.

If it is confirmed that the ship has dumped any waste, it is seized and escorted to territorial waters, where a fine must be paid.

This is similar to what happened last year with the Dutch ship which contaminated the Sharm al-Shaykh coast, he said. [passage omitted]

Touching on developments in the naval forces' equipment, Vice Admiral al-Sadiq said that the technical equipment which increases the lifespan of ships and battle units has been developed with a view to rationalizing expenditure, enhancing efficiency, and developing armaments.

Therefore, he added, we concentrated on the naval forces' main workshops and equipment which are necessary for maintaining and preserving the units' efficiency. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Comments on Financial Companies
NC2010235688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1835 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi has declared that the government is closely following up on the issue of financial investment companies and that its intervention always aims to safeguard citizens' rights, the interests of the national economy, and the interests of these companies.

A responsible source in the prime minister's office said this evening: Following the issuance of Law No. 146 of 1988, it was noticed that some of these companies had resorted to twisted methods to evade the law's application and carried out sham transactions.

They also repaid some clients but not others, thus violating the principle of equality among creditors provided for by the law and making it incumbent on the state to take decisive action in this regard.

The source continued: Therefore, the state deemed it necessary to issue a military order in accordance with the emergency law, which has been drawn up essentially to enable the state to take decisive and quick measures to deal with anything threatening the public interest.

The source noted that Military Order No 3 of 1988 obliges these companies to dispose of their assets only with the approval of the chairman of the money market authority.

This is to ensure that any such disposition will be serious and in the interest of the depositors and that the value of the disposed assets is real so that the assets' net value will not be eroded by their sale.

The source also noted that Article 2 emphasizes the equality among the depositors and confronts what some of these companies and individuals did when they felt that a law—namely Law 146 of 1988—was being prepared.

It also confronts the sham transactions these companies and individuals completed after the law had been issued.

Further on Order

NC2010125988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0958 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Cairo, 20 Oct (MENA)—Dr 'Atif Sidqi, chairman of the Council of Ministers and deputy military governor general, has issued an order banning some capital investment companies from disposing of their properties.

He also issued a decision specifying the natural and corporate persons to whom the order applies. [passage omitted]

Following is the text of Order Number 3 for 1988 issued by Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi:

Article 1:

Every natural or corporate person, affected by Articles 16 and 18 of Law 146 for 1988 regarding companies functioning in the field of receiving money for investment, who are specified by a decision of the chairman of the Council of Ministers during the period of the restructuring of their status or until such time as all sums of money are returned to their owners according to circumstances, are forbidden to dispose, either directly or indirectly, of any movable or immovable asset, investments, or banknotes owned by the institution in question or its proprietors or their partners, except with the approval of the chairman of the public authority for the money market.

This applies in accordance with the conditions specified for protecting the rights of the owners of capital.

The ban also includes using part of the said original assets for investment or partnership in other projects or companies.

The dealing in goods and other dealings of the same nature which are necessary for the normal activity of the institution are exempted from this ban.

Article 2:

Any dispositions [tasarrufat] which will be carried out in contravention of Article 1 of this decree will be regarded as inadmissible.

Any such dispositions will be considered null and void, even if they were made public.

Positions resulting from any such disposition will be invalid.

Furthermore, any dispositions made between 1 January and the date on which this decree take effect will be regarded as null and void, unless it has been established that such dispositions were made before the date on which the cited Law No 146 for the year 1988 comes into effect.

Article 3:

This order will be published in the official gazette and will come into force as of the date of its publication.

This order was issued on 8 Rabi' al-Awwal 1409 of the hegira, corresponding to 19 October 1988.

Dr 'Atif Sidqi also issued decision 1139 for 1988.

Article 1:

Order Number 3 for 1988 issued by the chairman of the Council of Ministers and deputy military governor general, cited above, applies to the following natural and corporate persons:

- 1) Al-Rayyan Company for investment.
- 2) Al-Rayyan Company for financial transactions.
- 3) Mr Ahmad Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah.
- 4) Mr Muhammad Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah.
- 5) Mr Fathi Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah.
- 6) Mr Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah Jabr.
- 7) Mrs Shukriyah Sulayman Muhammad.

Article 2:

This decision will be published in the official gazette.

Issued by the chairmanship of the Council of Ministers on 8 Rabi' al-Awwal 1409 of the hegira, corresponding to 19 October 1988.

Libya

'Arafat, Al-Qadhdhafi Meeting Said 'Fruitful'
LD2010202188 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1702 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO executive committee and commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, has met with Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

The Palestinian news agency, WAFA, has reported that the Palestinian and Libyan leaders discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian, Arab and international

arenas, and especially the blessed uprising which has been going on for 11 months against the Zionist occupation forces and their military machinery.

The agency described their meeting as positive and fruitful. It is worth recalling that the brother leader Abu 'Ammar visited the Libyan Jamahiriyyah last Sunday following his tour to Egypt, the Democratic People's Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic, in that order.

Abu 'Ammar also paid a short visit to Algeria, upon his return to Tunisia last Monday, accompanied by Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] member of the Central Committee of Fatah.

During this visit they met with President Chadli Bendjedid.

'Arafat Departs

LD1910091888 Tripoli JANA English 0817 GMT
19 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tumur [October] 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Mr. Yasir 'Arafat left Tripoli yesterday afternoon after concluding his visit to Great al-Jamahiriyyah.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Visits Tripoli
LD2010074788 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0713 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in the Great Jamahiriyyah yesterday.

In a statement to JANA, Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed his pleasure over this visit.

He said that his presence in our revolutionary and Muslim country falls within the framework of the exchange of views between the Jamahiriyyah and Iran on the solution of issues of common interest.

In his statement, the Iranian deputy foreign minister added that relations between the Jamahiriyyah and Iran are strong. We are hoping to consolidate and develop them further.

He pointed to the continuous cooperation and coordination between the two countries and revolutions in the struggle against imperialism throughout the world.

Discusses Relations

LD2010161088 Tripoli JANA in Arabic
1250 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, 20 Oct—(JANA)—The brother secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for External Liaison this morning had a meeting with Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, the Iranian deputy foreign minister.

During this meeting the latest regional developments, issues of mutual interest and ways to strengthen cooperation between the two friendly countries were discussed.

The Iranian official expressed the thanks and gratitude of the government and people of Iran for the efforts which have been made and are still made by the Great Jamahiriyyah to stop the bloodshed between the brothers in Iraq and Iran.

The Iranian deputy foreign minister praised the distinguished relations and joint cooperation in all fields between the two friendly countries.

Further on Talks

LD2010180188 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Afro-Arab Affairs Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Eslam conferred with Libyan Foreign Minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi in Tripoli yesterday afternoon on Iran-Iraq peace talks and current regional issues.

Shaykh ol-Eslam, who arrived in Tripoli from Khartoum Wednesday, said he is in Libya to brief that country's leaders on the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq peace talks.

Referring to Iraq's undermining of Security Council Resolution 598, Shaykh ol-Eslam said that Baghdad, by raising preconditions outside the resolution's context, intends to sabotage the peace process.

He stressed that Muslim states and international circles should pressure Iraq if a lasting peace in the region is to be achieved.

In the meeting, the two sides also stressed the expansion of Iran-Libya economic cooperation within the framework of the joint commission.

Electricity Protocol Signed With Tunisia

LD2010220088 Tripoli JANA in English 1429 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Tumur [October] 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In Tripoli yesterday a protocol was conducted of the joint Libyan Arab-Tunisian Committee.

Present at this ceremony were the secretary of the administrative committee of the general establishment of electricity and Mr. T. Belhaj [name as received], director general of the electricity and gas company in sisterly Tunisia.

The protocol calls for speeding up the implementation of the project of connecting electricity (?between the) two countries apart from continuing reviewing the technical studies to agree upon establishing a network of 30 kilovolts on the border areas such as Qirdan, Thhaibah, Bir al-Khadhra' [placenames as received].

The protocol includes the exchange of visits to benefit from the experience available in each of the two sisterly countries and the use of the up-to-date technology in this regard, potentials available in Tunisia are to train Libyan Arab personnel in the Electricity General Company.

Training programmes applies in Tunisia will be of help alongside exchanging technical and scientific consultations in the training centres in Great Al-Jamahiriyyah.

This exchange of experience will also be conducted in the administrative organization and the development of the administrative measures applied in the account field concerning the consumers and financial matters, not to (?mention the) economic and technical studies of the proposed industrial projects [word indistinct] Great Al-Jamahiriyyah and Tunisia as well as swapping information on those companies and installations manufacturing electric appliances in the two countries and the possibility of benefits from the specialized products quarters and the purchase and storing rules in the two sisterly countries.

Mauritania

French Anti-Locust Plane Crashes; Crew Unhurt
AB1910103188 Paris AFP in French 0821 GMT
19 Oct 88

[Text] Nouakchott, 19 Oct (AFP)—A "Broussard" aircraft lent by France to Mauritania for the fight against locusts crashed at Nouakchott Airport on Monday [17 October] as it was taking off.

This was learned from reliable sources in the Mauritanian capital yesterday.

The crew escaped unhurt, but the aircraft "is in such a condition that it cannot fly [words indistinct].

[Words indistinct] currently (?participating) in Mauritania in the fight against locusts which have invaded the entire Sahel region.

The locusts have [words indistinct] where 5 millions hectares at least have been infested.

Nouakchott has for several days been prey to "rose" locusts of the second generation which have devastated many trees and the few patches of greenery in the capital.

Taya Receives Message From Guinea-Bissau's Vieira
AB1810095988 *Nouakchott Domestic Service in French*
0730 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the CMSN and head of state, yesterday morning received Mr (Bernadino Cardocho), permanent secretary at the Guinea-Bissau Presidency in charge of economic cooperation, who delivered to the head of state a message from President Joao Bernardo Vieira.

Earlier, Mr (Cardocho) had co-chaired with the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Major Mohamed Lemine Ould N'Diayane, the opening ceremony of the first session of the Mauritania-Guinea-Bissau Permanent Joint Commission. [passage omitted]

Morocco

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Arrives in Fes 20 Oct
LD2110050888 *Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic*
2300 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Fes this evening at the head of a Palestinian delegation.

He was greeted at Fez-Sais airport by Mr Ahmed Belhouda, the king's adviser, the governor of the Province of Fes, Moulay Mehdi Alaoui Lamrani, and other officials.

Five Cooperation Agreements Signed With Portugal
LD1810152788 *Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic*
1300 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] The proceedings of the Moroccan-Portuguese mixed committee were concluded with the signing of the committee minutes and five cooperation agreements.

The signing ceremony for the minutes of the Moroccan-Portuguese permanent mixed committee for cooperation proceedings took place under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr Azzedine Laraki and his Portuguese counterpart Anibal Cavaco Silva.

The minutes were signed by Mr Ahmed Cherkaoui, secretary of state for foreign affairs, and his Portuguese counterpart Jose Manuel Durao Barroso, in the presence of Messrs Driss Basri, minister of the interior and information, Mohamed Berrada, minister of finance, Moussa Saadi, minister of tourism, Bensalem Smili, minister of fisheries and merchant marine, Mohamed Bouamoud, minister of transport, Moulay Zine Zahidi, minister delegate to the prime minister in charge of economic affairs, Mohamed Fettah, minister of energy and mines, Mohamed Benaissa, minister of cultural affairs.

The ceremony was also attended by His Majesty's Ambassador in Lisbon Mr Abdelhakim Laraki and the delegation accompanying the Portuguese prime minister.

The signing covers five agreements of cooperation in a number of economic, cultural, and technical fields, which can be divided as follows:

—agreement on international road transport of passengers and goods.

—agreement on the mutual promotion and protection of investments.

—agreement of mutual administrative assistance to uncover and prevent customs offenses.

—agreement on cooperation in the information field.

—agreement on combating drugs. [passage omitted]

Portuguese Premier Departs

LD2010135988 *Rabat MAP in English* 1218 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Fes, Oct 20 (MAP)—Portuguese Prime Minister Anibal Cavaco Silva left here Wednesday night for Lisbon at the end of a four day visit to Morocco during which he was received by King Hassan II of Morocco and conferred with several Moroccan officials including his peer Azzeddine Laraki.

Silva's visit included a tour to some Moroccan towns namely: Fes, El Jadida, the port of El Jorf Lasfar, Casablanca, Tangier and Asilah.

During the visit, several accords were signed between Morocco and Portugal in different fields.

Before departure Silva held a press conference at the airport of Fes in which he paid tribute to King Hassan II and to the sovereign's "wisdom and moderation" which bestowed on the monarch "a great prestige" throughout the world.

He said the talks he had had with Moroccan officials will boost bilateral cooperation in economic, cultural and other areas and added that the meetings between the two countries entrepreneurs can reach concrete results in the development of bilateral exchanges.

On his talks with the Moroccan king, Silva said they dealt with geostrategic and defense issues, the upgrading of Moroccan-Portuguese relations, African problems and other issues of mutual interest.

Referring to a possible support of Portugal to the Moroccan request to be member of the EEC, the Portuguese premier said that his country is for the furthering of relations between the EEC and Morocco and added that

the question of Morocco's adhesion to the community should be looked into by the commission before being submitted to the European Ministerial Council.

He added that Portugal is keenly following the efforts of Morocco for the construction of the grand Maghreb "which once built will have great facility in dialoguing with the European community".

Political stability in the Maghreb favours rapprochement between the countries of this region and that of the European Community, he went on.

He also tackled the Moroccan and Portuguese efforts to secure peace in Africa and especially in Angola.

The dialogue stepped up between Angola, the United States, South Africa and Cuba "gives us the hope to see peace reached in Angola", he said.

On a possible contribution of Portugal in the rehabilitation of the town of Fes, Silva said he visited Fes for the first time and as a "universal heritage" the international community "should make a special effort to save the town.

Tunisia

Advantages of 'Islamic Option' Described
PM1810101988 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 15 Oct 88 p 20

['Part II' of an interview with Islamic Tendency Movement Secretary General Abdelfattah Mourou by Yasir Farahat in Tunis; date unspecified]

[Excerpts] [Farahat] When, God willing, the party you are seeking to establish is approved, what will your position be toward the parties whose views differ from yours; how will you deal with them?

[Mourou] The only arbitrator between us and those who differ from us is the law. And the best positive law in Tunisia is the Constitution, whose first clause stipulates that Tunisia is an independent state, Islam is its religion, and Arabic is its language.

This means that a Tunisian can only carry out his political and social work on the basis of Islam.

Anyone who violates Islam is in fact working against the Constitution. [passage omitted]

I believe that the Islamic Tendency Movement, which adheres to its religion, will certainly work to guide the national option in the arena under Islam and under the civilization Tunisia has experienced ever since Islam entered it 13 and 1/2 centuries ago.

[Farahat] Regarding the activities of the Islamic Tendency Movement, some observers say:

Why does it not leave the arena of political struggle and promote the Islamic call and Islamic education?

[Mourou] I do not think there is any contradiction between the two. If we are working for Almighty God and following the prophet—peace be upon him—our Islamic action, as we understand it, must begin with calling on the people to turn to God and promoting good morality.

This was our program until the previous regime realized that such work was contradicting its own cultural options, which were based primarily on the desire to Westernize the Tunisian people and destroy their Arab and Islamic identity. [passage omitted]

As Islamic politicians, our task is to guide the general option of the people so that they will accept the Islamic option as a solution to their problem.

We are seeking to accentuate that aspect which is concealed from many Muslims, who have thought of Islam as merely a process of worship.

They were dazzled by the science-based Western civilization.

We want to open the eyes of heedless Muslims to the the aspect of public relations in Islamic action and show them that Islam—which teaches individual uprightness, truthfulness, and love for others—also urges Muslims to live under an economic, social, political system based on the Book and the sunnah. [passage omitted]

[Farahat] What is your opinion of the claim that democracy in the Third World is restricted and rationed?

[Mourou] The individuals of the Third World are similar to the individuals of the First and Second World.

People are born equal in terms of capabilities, efficiency, and potential. But the atmosphere under which most of the peoples live in the Third World is one of repression, tyranny, and injustice.

That is why they are longing for something better. They believe that they lack the capability to handle their own affairs and that they will always have guardians.

There were guardians representing foreign imperialism and now there are guardians ruling these people, who have to listen and obey. [passage omitted]

Therefore I believe that our duty as Muslims working in the Islamic arena is to help our peoples to move step by step toward a rational option, namely, by calling for more of the oxygen of freedom to refresh them and enable them to see with their own eyes the facts of reality.

[Farahat] As the Islamic Tendency Movement, do you have any specific political and social options to raise in the Tunisian arena?

[Mourou] We believe that at this stage we must focus on establishing the awareness that the Western example is not the only example for development that our people should follow.

The point is that at one stage the tyrannical West led a campaign against us to persuade people that they could not progress or advance unless they followed the West's line.

That is why many of our young have adopted all the Western options, culturally, educationally, economically, and politically. They have abandoned their Arab and Islamic identity.

We believe that our role as Islamic groups is to show these people, and young people especially, that Islam has a particular concept of development under which assets are used for noble purposes.

In this case, man becomes God's representative in handling funds.

This economic point will make the Muslim peoples collect money to build the fortress of truth and good deeds on earth.

There are economic options as well as political options in Islam; they are listed in both the Book and the sunnah.

We as callers and workers in the Islamic arena must clarify this to our people so that they will stop blindly submitting themselves to the West and realize that they have the capability to develop their various options while preserving their Arab and Islamic identity. [passage omitted]

[Farahat] To what extent has the Islamic Movement studied and benefited from the experiments of other various Islamic groups?

[Mourou] Our conviction in the Tunisian Islamic Tendency Movement is that there is no grudge between the rulers and the ruled and that the West, via cheap intrigues and incitement, has managed to cause tension in the relationship between the Muslim peoples and their rulers; because it will not be able to control the Muslim peoples' options and keep them backward if there is accord between the rulers and the ruled.

That is why the West has often managed, via intelligent and sometimes sly ways, to cause tension in the relationship between the rulers and the ruled to the point that some rulers have become the most hostile enemies of those advocating Islam. [passage omitted]

We are persistently working toward making our relationship with the rulers in Tunisia one of reconciliation, tolerance, and mutual consultation on the basis of Islam.

If the ruler makes an error, it is our role to make him aware of that error.

If we make a mistake, it is the ruler's duty to guide us to the straight path.

I believe that such an approach would lead to prosperity and to the elimination of the false fear between the rulers and the ruled. [passage omitted]

Bahrain

Amir Receives Mauritanian Minister, Message

JN2010113888 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0940 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Manama, 20 Oct (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a message from Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya dealing with bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Mauritanian Justice Minister Mohamed Salem Ould Mohamed Lemine delivered the message when His Highness Shaykh 'Isa received him here today.

Following the meeting, Lemine said he and his highness the amir of Bahrain exchanged views on Arab and Islamic issues and the situation in the Arab Maghreb region.

The Mauritanian minister lauded the directives of His Highness Shaykh 'Isa on all that concerns the welfare, interest, and promotion of the Arab and Islamic nations and the service of their fateful causes.

The meeting was attended by Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister Shaykh 'Abdallah ibn Khalid Al Khalifah and the Ministry's Under Secretary Shaykh 'Abd al Rahman ibn Muhammad Al Khalifah.

The Mauritanian minister arrived in Manama yesterday on a visit to Bahrain as part of a regional tour.

Qatar

Visiting UK Official Meets With Amir 20 Oct

JN2010122088 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1050 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Doha, 20 Oct (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, this morning received William Waldegrave, British minister of state for foreign affairs [title as received], currently visiting Doha.

QNA has said discussions dealt with a number of international and regional issues of mutual interest and ways to enhance and expand both cooperation and the good relations between the two countries.

The British official's visit to Doha, which began today, is part of a regional tour.

Sees Finance, Oil Minister

JN2010124588 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1145 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Doha, 20 Oct (WAKH)—Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari finance and oil minister, today met with William Waldegrave, British minister of state for foreign affairs [title as received], and the accompanying delegation currently visiting Doha.

They reviewed bilateral relations regarding economic and oil areas.

They also exchanged views on the possibility of enhancing future Qatari-British cooperation in these fields.

Saudi Arabia

King To Ask Media To Stop 'Antagonizing' Iran

LD2010034588 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0029 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Mecca, 19 October 1988 (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, may God protect him, inspected the university city of Umm al-Qura University at the Al-Abidiyah quarter in holy Mecca this evening.

The king met the teaching staff, his sons the students, and the employees of the university. [passage omitted]

The custodian of the two holy mosques turned to the development of the situation with Iran and the latter's refusal to allow Iranian pilgrims to carry out the rituals of the pilgrimage last year.

He stressed that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia cannot accept under any circumstances the presence of chaos, especially in holy Mecca or in Al-Madinah during the pilgrimage.

He said: Security, and especially the security of the pilgrims, is the responsibility of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia which stands as a barrier against those who harm the organization of the pilgrims of the house of God.

The king also emphasized that the problems between the Kingdom and Iran are limited and unlikely to continue.

He said: We in the Kingdom can only submit to God the Almighty, but, at the same time, we cannot create problems for the Muslim peoples or for the states neighboring the Kingdom.

The custodian of the two holy mosques pointed out that the Kingdom encourages the cease-fire and the establishment of a comprehensive peace between the two neighboring states of Iraq and Iran.

He emphasized that the resolution of these problems by peaceful means prompts the Kingdom to also welcome the resolution of the problems that were created against its will. The Kingdom wants to end all problems between itself and Iran.

The custodian of the two holy mosques has issued instructions to his excellency the minister of information to make newspapers and the radio refrain from antagonizing Iran.

He said: We shall start by doing good and hope that the same will be done to us.

He said that the Kingdom has been blessed with many things, the most important of which is that all of its citizens possess an unshakeable faith in the Islamic religion.

He reaffirmed that the Kingdom's foreign policy is based on nonintervention in the affairs of others. It also rejects interventions by others in its own affairs.

He also emphasized that the Kingdom will always stand by Lebanon and that it will work towards the unity of its sects and factions to confront the ambitions of the Israeli role.

He expressed regret over the criticisms that have been directed by some Lebanese newspapers at the Kingdom because of the latter's concern to implement the law of God.

In this respect, he stressed that the state does not intervene in shari'a laws or in the views of the ulema and judges of this country. [passage omitted]

Yemen Arab Republic

President Salih Receives USSR's Lushev
JN2010131088 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office today General Petr Lushev, USSR first deputy defense minister.

They discussed relations of cooperation between the two friendly countries, means to promote them, and a number of issues of common interest.

The meeting was attended by Brothers 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and Standing Committee member; and Col 'Abdallah Husayn al-Bashiri, chief of staff and Standing Committee member.

Government Agrees To POW Exchange With Iran
*JN2010134588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1334 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—Iraq has agreed to start the comprehensive exchange of prisoners between Iraq and Iran.

Red Cross on Exchange

*JN2010141988 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1346 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—A Foreign Ministry official spokesman said this to INA today. The spokesman said that Iraq received a memorandum from the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] that was addressed to the Foreign Ministries of both Iraq and Iran on 4 October 1988 calling on the two sides to end the tribulation of the prisoners and to send all of them back to their country following the implementation of the cease-fire on 20 August 1988 according to the Geneva convention on POW's which stipulates their repatriation to their homeland without any procrastination following the cessation of hostilities.

The ICRC had proposed to the two sides the draft of an integrated plan for the exchange of prisoners.

The operation will start with the comprehensive registration of all prisoners.

The ICRC had emphasized the need to repatriate the sick and wounded prisoners as soon as possible.

The spokesman explained that Iraq replied to the ICRC memorandum by agreeing to start the operation of the exchange of prisoners, given that it is one of the humanitarian topics that must be given precedence and on condition that Iran actually start this.

Iraq also stressed that its acceptance of this measure is not linked to the other topics that are included in UN Security Council Resolution 598 and does not affect the implementation of this resolution according to the sequence of its provisions.

Following is the text of the ICRC memorandum addressed to the Foreign Ministry and of Iraq's acceptance that was communicated to the ICRC:

The ICRC extends its greetings to the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Iraq and has the honor to inform it of the following:

Considering the cease-fire agreement between Iraq and Iran which entered into force on 20 August 1988, the ICRC officially appeals to the two countries' governments to make the necessary arrangements to implement Article 118 of the 1949 Third Geneva Convention on the release of POW's and their repatriation.

The ICRC is seriously concerned about the tribulation of the POW's resulting from the protracted incarceration to which they have been subjected so far.

On the basis of its responsibilities, the ICRC urges the two sides to give this humanitarian issue the importance it deserves.

To reach an agreement on the attainment of this between the two sides, the ICRC believes it is crucial to speedily settle the issue which is still pending and which deals with information about and registration of all the persons who were taken prisoner and who enjoy legal protection under the Third Geneva Convention, particularly those persons which the ICRC has failed to contact so far.

The number of these prisoners who have not been registered is estimated at 20,000 to 30,000 at least in each of Iran and Iraq.

While confident that this humanitarian issue of utmost importance can have a speedy solution that will satisfy both parties, the ICRC calls on the two parties to discuss the implementation of the practical measures on verifying the presence of all the POW's according to the proposals listed in the document entitled "The Principles and Measures for the Release of Those Who Were Taken Captive During the Iraq-Iran War and Their Repatriation" that was recently delivered to the representatives of both Iraq and Iran.

The ICRC also urges the two sides to start the repatriation of the sick and wounded prisoners who have been identified by ICRC medical bodies.

The equitable solution to these two issues will constitute the sound basis for the speedy release of all those who were taken prisoner during the Iraq-Iran war and their repatriation in a coordinated and comprehensive manner to end the tribulation they and their families are experiencing.

The ICRC seizes this opportunity to express once again to the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Iraq its profound appreciation and respect.

Geneva, 4 October 1988

Following is the text of Iraq's message to the ICRC:

The Foreign Ministry sends its greetings to the ICRC mission in Baghdad. In reference to the ICRC memorandum dated 4 October 1988, the Foreign Ministry has the honor to inform the respectable ICRC mission of the following:

1. Iraq had earlier asked the ICRC in the two messages addressed by the deputy prime minister and foreign minister to ICRC Chairman Cornelio Sommaruga on 11 and 19 August 1988 to begin the registration of all

POW's who were not registered, to make a thorough medical examination of all POW's in Iraq and Iran before the exchange of POW's takes place, and to provide each POW with a medical report.

2. In accordance with this, the Iraqi Government agrees to start implementing the ICRC memorandum of 4 October 1988 concerning the exchange of POW's on the condition that Iran starts this also.

In light of the fact that the exchange of the POW's is one of the humanitarian issues and in response to the ICRC request, our agreement on this measure is not linked with the other issues in UN Security Council Resolution No 598 and does not affect the implementation of the resolution according to the sequence of its paragraphs.

The Foreign Ministry would appreciate the respectable ICRC mission to convey the contents of this letter to the ICRC in Geneva.

The ministry takes this opportunity to express its heartfelt appreciation and respect.

'Aziz Makes Statement on Syrian Role in Lebanon
JN2010175388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Oct (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that every honest Arab knows full well that the Syrian regime—involved in the Zionist sectarian partition schemes—is the main party responsible for fragmenting Lebanon's constitutional institutions.

In a statement to INA today, 'Aziz added that the Syrian regime, with impudence only envied by its allies in Tel Aviv and Tehran, has placed before the Lebanese deputies two options:

Either come to the old Chamber building, which is under the control of its forces, to agree by force on the president of the Republic and the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies whom it wants to impose on the Lebanese, or there will be no elections and the constitutional institutions in the country will be destroyed, thereby escalating the chaos in Lebanon and removing all hope of regaining Lebanon's unity as soon as possible.

Following is the text of Tariq 'Aziz's statement:

Once again, the Damascus regime reiterates its insistence on destroying the legitimate constitutional institutions in Lebanon and pushing the situation toward making partition a fait accompli.

After premeditatedly obstructing the election of a new president of the Republic, the Damascus regime this time has obstructed the election of a speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies.

The Syrian regime, with impudence only envied by its allies in Tel Aviv and Tehran, has placed before the Lebanese deputies only two options:

Either come to the old Chamber building, which is under the control of its forces, to agree by force on the president of the Republic and the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies whom it wants to impose on the Lebanese, or there will be no elections and the constitutional institutions in the country will be destroyed, thereby escalating the chaos in Lebanon and removing all hope of regaining Lebanon's unity as soon as possible. Unbiased and constructive proposals were made to ensure a free and secure atmosphere to elect a new president for the Republic and a speaker for the Chamber of Deputies in the Mansur Palace in Beirut.

This place has been used for 11 years as the headquarters of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies so that the deputies from all groups will be able to come to this venue and hold free elections without any threats.

However, the Syrian regime forced its hostages from the Lebanese politicians and deputies to reject these proposals without giving any convincing explanation for not going to a place used as the headquarters of the Chamber of Deputies for a very long period of time to ensure free and secure elections.

Who is pushing Lebanon toward partition? Are they the Lebanese and Arab sides that call for ensuring free and secure elections for the president of the Republic and the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies to preserve the symbols of national unity and the constitutional legitimacy in the country, or the Syrian regime, which is placing before the Lebanese two options only—submission or partition?

Every honest Arab knows full well that the Syrian regime that is involved in the Zionist sectarian partition schemes is the main party responsible for fragmenting the constitutional institutions in Lebanon.

Commenting on some statements made by Lebanese parties against Iraq's principled and daring stands on Lebanon, the foreign minister said:

Those who made these statements are two kinds of Lebanese politicians. The hands of one kind are stained with Palestinian blood, and this kind is involved in sectarian partition schemes.

The other kind is hostage to the Damascus rulers and have two options only: Either to be killed, as happened to their ancestors, or to make statements dictated by the Damascus executioners.

Paper Urges Syria's Expulsion From Arab League
JN2110102488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT
21 Oct 88

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Oct (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has once again called for expelling the Syrian regime from the Arab League and for Arab isolation of it.

The paper says this measure is a pressing pan-Arab task.

In a comment today, AL-THAWRAH adds that the Damascus regime's betrayal of pan-Arab issues and the gravity of its treason require pan-Arab action to rid the Syrian people of this mercenary regime and also to completely remove this regime and impose sanctions on it.

The comment emphasizes that the Syrian regime under Hafiz al-Asad, the slave of charlatans, is playing a dangerous role in Arab and international arenas.

The demand by numerous Arab circles to isolate the Syrian regime and expel it from the Arab ranks is a demand that must be implemented.

Palestinian figures in the occupied West Bank have recently denounced the treasonous stands of the Hafiz al-Asad regime on fateful Arab causes, AL-THAWRAH adds.

Air Force Launches 2 Raids on Southern Lebanon
TA2110101988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] This morning, Air Force planes raided terrorist targets in the Sidon area and in the vicinity of Mashgharah and Al-Luwayzah in the Al-Biq'a' area.

The IDF spokesman has reported that the targets were destroyed and that all the aircraft returned home safely.

Explosions were observed in the Sidon area, at a site where an ammunition depot is believed to have been hit.

Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that Air Force planes are currently raiding targets in the vicinity of Maydun, on the outskirts of the Al-Biq'a' Valley.

The bombings set fire to Hizballah outposts in the town of Mashgharah, in the Al-Biq'a' Valley.

A large ammunition depot in that area was also apparently hit.

Thick smoke is rising from the terrorist targets in the Sidon area.

So far, there have been no reports of casualties.

According to reports in Beirut, Syrian Army units in the Al-Biq'a' Valley have been put on maximum alert.

Israeli Cobra helicopters attacked terrorist bases near the village of Maydun in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon during the past hour.

UN Headquarters has reported to our correspondent Hayim Hecht that the helicopters fired approximately 20 missiles at terrorist concentrations.

An F-15 Air Force plane later flew overhead and fired approximately 10 rockets at terrorist targets in the village of Al-Luwayzah in the same area.

UN observers have reported that several dozen terrorists were found in the two villages.

They ran off in all directions and only after the helicopters disappeared did they begin to fire several antiaircraft missiles.

Defense Leaders on Policy After Bomb Incident

No Terror Will Go 'Unpunished'
TA2010211088 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1940 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Announcement by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin replacing Alignment Party propaganda broadcasts]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The method and the policy to avoid maintaining a large number of IDF soldiers in Lebanon has been proven correct, even if we occasionally have to pay a high price for that policy.

We have no choice. We will continue fighting terror, and ensure peace for the Galilee.

We will do so by using every means and every tool available to us. No terror organization that carries out a murderous act, or even tries to carry one out, will go unpunished. The IDF's arm will reach it wherever it may be.

Shomron: No Change in Policy
TA2010131088 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of staff, visited the casualties from the car bomb attack at Rambam Hospital and said the IDF's policy in southern Lebanon will not change. Here are the chief of staff's remarks:

[Begin Shomron recording] First of all, based on what I know at present, I believe that the car was parked in the security zone with the explosives inside.

I would like to expand on this slightly. The IDF and the security forces which cooperate with it in the security zone operate in two fields:

First, to prevent terrorists—and car bombs are also a type of terrorists—from operating in the security zone or reaching Israel via the security zone;

Second, there are 100,000 civilians living there, and if we treat them all like terrorists and suspect each vehicle, this will cause very serious harm to the population.

In the final analysis, this would boomerang against us and also cause us security problems. [end recording]

The chief of staff, who visited the four wounded soldiers at Rambam Hospital in Haifa, pointed out that IDF policy in southern Lebanon will not change and that in most cases, the security zone fulfills our expectations.

[Begin Shomron recording] We will take measures to make sure that the chance of cars exploding near a large group of vehicles will be minimal. [end recording]

Further Investigation, Commentary on Bombing

IDF Acted According to Orders

TA2010144888 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1330 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] There was no blunder in the attack on the IDF convoy. This is the conclusion of the inquiries made last night in the Northern Command.

It is possible that all regulations were not followed. This fact, however, is not significant to the consequences of the attack.

Our correspondent Asaf Ashkenazi reports:

The investigation of the convoy attack is still under way. Preliminary information revealed that the soldiers acted according to the standing orders.

The convoy was on the road on a mission. Most of the soldiers were wearing protective vests, although the orders do not require wearing them in this area. All of them were carrying guns and ammunition as required.

There could be some fault with the filling out of forms of entry to Lebanon. Another subject being checked is the distance between the vehicles of the convoy.

The location where the cars were parked near the gate at the Good Fence is being looked into.

As for the car-bomb, it is now almost certain that it was constructed inside the security zone in Southern Lebanon.

The rescue and evacuation: The system undoubtedly operated the way it should. There was full cooperation between the residents of Metulla, Magen David Adom, and the IDF medical teams.

The investigation will continue.

Not all of the injured soldiers have been interrogated yet.

The bottom line is that the facts show that the attack was, regrettably, almost unavoidable.

SLA Detains Shi'ite Suspects

TA2010164688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] South Lebanese Army [SLA] personnel today detained five Shi'ite inhabitants of the security strip suspected of complicity in assembling the car bomb that exploded near Metulla yesterday.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that by order of the IDF, Lebanese traffic along the road adjacent to the border fence in the vicinity of the area of the attack was forbidden today.

It has developed that a radio transmitter operated by the Voice of the South, the SLA station, was hit and station broadcasts halted.

Meanwhile, Hizballah has threatened to harm two Israelis it claims to hold captive should Israel take retaliatory action against Hizballah.

Uri Lubrani, the coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, believes that although Hizballah has assumed responsibility for the attack, it does not enjoy broad support in the security strip.

Thus, to operate inside that zone, it must dispatch people from the outside.

Lubrani emphasized that the attack and the uprising in the territories are totally unrelated.

No Direct Link With 'Uprising'

JN2010184388 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1530 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Dispatch from Rossite Hakim, military affairs correspondent, on interview with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli Government activities in South Lebanon, carried within "With the Events" program—Lubrani remarks recorded in Hebrew fading into Arabic translation]

[Text] [Hakim] The great disappointment suffered recently by the Hizballah organization as a result of the continuous activities of the IDF and the South Lebanese Army to abort its sabotage attempts in the security zone in south Lebanon has pushed it to flex its muscles again in its known specialty: preparing boobytrapped cars and spreading death and destruction in different parts of Lebanon, this time in south Lebanon.

The first question we put to Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, is to what extent does the Hizballah organization still function in the security zone and whether it enjoys practical support from local residents.

[Begin recording] [Lubrani] The fact that the terrorist incident, for which the Hizballah organization claimed responsibility, occurred indicates that it still functions in the security zone.

Secondly, as I well know, the support enjoyed by this organization in the region is very limited.

Therefore, Hizballah members have to come from outside the security zone, not from inside it. [end recording]

[Hakim] Lubrani added that, undoubtedly, there are pressures against residents of villages in South Lebanon. But he is quite certain that the residents realize where their interests lie and, therefore, they do not extend support to the saboteurs.

Answering a question on whether there is a connection between yesterday's incident and the incidents in the territories, as claimed by the Hizballah organization, Lubrani said:

[Begin recording] [Lubrani] I see that this connection is made merely for propaganda purposes.

I do not expect the emergence of any direct link between what happens on the Lebanese borders and what happens inside the State of Israel. [end recording]

[Hakim] Regarding the measures to be taken in the future, the coordinator of government affairs in Lebanon said:

[Begin recording] [Lubrani] We will continue to do what is necessary to secure our northern borders, so that we will not be surprised by any activity by the Hizballah organization or other saboteur organizations.

We must remember that we are in the tumult of a conflict in which we must sometimes have victims.

Yet, we will exert every possible effort to make those who send saboteurs to our territories pay a high price. [end recording]

Hizballah Attempt at 'Hegemony'

TA2010150388 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 20 Oct 88 p 1

[Commentary by Tallie Selinger: "Hizballah Scores Some Bloody Points"]

[Text] The Hizballah organization yesterday dealt the IDF a severe blow and scored points in the continuing struggle for hegemony in South Lebanon.

By its latest action, it offered the Palestinian terrorist organizations a bloody hand for strengthening its alliance with them; it made a demonstrative contribution to the intifada [uprising].

Exports have presumed for some time now that the extremist Shi'ite organization wished to carry out a particularly painful action against Israel in pursuit of its well-known aims of:

—Getting the IDF out of South Lebanon;—reminding everyone of its (Hizballah's) potential force in its struggle with the relatively moderate Shi'ite organization Amal for control of South Lebanon;—scoring points in its struggle with the joint Israel-South Lebanon Army-Amal effort over the control of South Lebanon;—mollifying its brothers-in-danger-of-expulsion from South Lebanon, its allies in the present coalition, the Palestinians.

(This alliance was confirmed by the help from Shi'ite extremists to the Palestinians in the battles in Beirut and in the Sidon camps.)

The strange coalitions created and dismembered and recreated in Lebanon from time to time no longer surprise or shock anyone. Anything goes.

The IDF, too, is aware of this, and maintains a level of alertness that takes into account the possibility of endless attempts by coordinated or private elements to hit the opposing coalitions.

Vigorous IDF initiatives on land and at sea have blocked many openings for those seeking to strike.

The use of a booby-trapped vehicle was known to be Hizballah's preferred method of attack, and was anticipated as a possibility calling for super-alertness.

The price of the success in preventing other strikes by sea or by land is a heavy blow like this one, administered by means that are difficult to anticipate and to prevent.

There is no doubt whatever about the success of the security zone in preventing strikes by various groups. But it is possible that the relative tranquillity created a degree of complacency.

The main conclusions that can be drawn even before the investigation is completed is that Lebanon is Lebanon—a nest of vipers teeming with evil schemes, that the IDF presence there is essential, and that no amount of vigilance is excessive.

IDF Presents Rabin With Multi-Year Plan

TA2110120088 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1100 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] The IDF's multi-year plan was presented to the defense minister today. It will be submitted to the Cabinet for endorsement only after the elections.

The details of the plans are outlined by our correspondent Asaf Ashkenazi:

The defense budget has undergone drastic cuts during the past few years. At the same time, additional threats and new issues requiring responses have been added to the general picture.

This category includes surface-to-surface missiles, chemical weapons, and the Arab armies' massive procurement.

The end of the Iran-Iraq war and even the uprising in the territories demand the attention of the defense establishment in planning its long-term program.

The IDF multi-year work plan outlines Navy procurement of "Dvora"-type vessels, advanced "Saar-5" missile boats, and "Dolphin" submarines.

As for the Air Force, the intention is to purchase dozens of F-16's, as well as several F-15's, to replace damaged aircraft.

Overhaul and upgrading plans were spelled out for assault helicopters, too.

For the ground forces, systems that will increase fire capability will be purchased, protection of armored vehicles will be improved, and the communications system will be refurbished.

All this still requires Cabinet approval.

The plan was submitted to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin today and will be presented to the cabinet after the elections.

SLA Soldier Seriously Injured in Explosion

*TA2110091788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Text] A South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldier sustained serious injuries this morning when a mine exploded on the outskirts of the security strip.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that he was flown by military helicopter to Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

This morning, SLA soldiers discovered a large bomb on the patrol route near the village of Bint Jubayl. They defused it without causing any damage.

Peres, Husayn Appear on ABC's 'Nightline'

*JN2110072688 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
0530 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Text] Israeli Ambassador in Washington Moshe Arad met with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy.

At this meeting, Murphy told Arad there is no truth in the reports saying that the United States has recently made proposals to boost the peace march.

Our correspondent in Washington says Murphy was referring to reports carried by Gulf mass media saying that Egypt will respond to new U.S. proposals in this regard.

King Husayn made this statement [as heard] in an interview with the U.S. ABC television network in a night program in which Shim'on Peres, acting prime minister and foreign minister, participated.

This program was aired at an early hour this morning. In this interview, King Husayn said that Jordan is committed to the peace march and that he hopes a positive decision will be made in Israel on holding peace negotiations after it has been seen that there is a trend toward logic and responsibility on the Palestinian part.

He said that he will soon resume efforts toward cooperation between Jordan and the Palestinians.

He said he views the change in the Soviet stand on the peace march positively.

This is the first time the Jordanian king has agreed to participate in a television program in which an Israeli leader has taken part.

In this interview, King Husayn referred to Peres' announcement last Sunday that if he is elected prime minister he will give higher priority to the convening of an international conference. King Husayn described this announcement as a step forward and a very encouraging one.

King Husayn touched on Yitzhaq Shamir's policy as announced. He said this policy may bring a sheer disaster to the Middle East if Shamir wins the elections.

Ted Koppel, the program editor who conducted the interview, told our correspondent in Washington that the Peres office proposed the interview.

He said Peres office personnel contacted the program producers and informed them that King Husayn would agree to be interviewed if they asked him.

The program editor added that he is aware of the impact the King Husayn interview may have on the elections in Israel.

He said, however, that he decided to hold the interview in light of the international importance of the statements made by the Jordanian king.

Shamir Sees 'Serious Damage'

*TA2110102788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has expressed regret and dismay over the attempt to introduce a foreign element into the Israeli election campaign by airing ABC-TV's 'Nightline' program.

Mr Shamir said that this is an unprecedented step, indicative of an absence of national pride.

One must remember, said Mr Shamir, that we will have to conduct peace negotiations with King Husayn in the future.

Thus, dragging him into the election campaign has caused Israel serious damage.

Those who caused that damage will bear the public responsibility for it.

Peres: Shamir 'Panicking'

TA2110123288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Excerpts] King Husayn's appearance on Ted Koppel's 'Nightline' television program last night has triggered an exchange of accusations between the leaders of the two major parties. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' office has reacted to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's special announcement by saying that Shamir and the Likud are panicking because Israel now has a partner to peace.

The communique issued by the foreign minister's office further states that we have already grown accustomed to the Likud forever finding new excuses to torpedo the chances for peace each time they crop up.

Husayn Remarks 'Intervention'

TA2110094588 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 21 Oct 88 p 1

[Report by the diplomatic staff]

[Text] The Likud last night accused King Husayn of "crass intervention in Israel's election campaign."

Likud sources maintained that the Jordanian monarch "obviously has contempt for the intelligence of the Israeli voters. But they surely will not be influenced by the King's remarks."

The Likud sources insisted that there was "basically nothing new" in Husayn's interview to ABC-TV.

"Clearly his only aim is to help Peres' campaign... This is another declaration which is meant to serve the needs of the hour and not the needs of the peace process."

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and the head of the Likud campaign, Minister Moshe Arens, refused to react on the record, pointing out that the ABC interview had not been broadcast yet.

Minervi Back From PRC; Ties Continuing 'Normally'

TA2010115388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1130 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Dr Yitzhaq Minervi, assistant director general of the Foreign Ministry, has returned from the PRC and reported this morning to senior Foreign Ministry officials on his talks and particularly on trade ties between the two countries.

Our correspondent says it appears from the report that despite media reports, ties between Israel and the PRC have not been harmed and are continuing normally.

PRC Delegation Visits Firm, Extends Visit Offer

TA2010152488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1500 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The PRC delegation toured the Unipower computer company this morning. The delegation was particularly interested in the computer operation system developed by the company.

Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that the delegation extended an invitation to Unipower representatives to visit the PRC.

This morning the members of the PRC delegation said that they are also interested in advanced electronic equipment for medical purposes.

Herzog Interviewed on Palestinians, Election

PM2110110688 Paris LE FIGARO in French
17 Oct 88 p 3

[Interview with President Hayim Herzog by Stephane Marchand—date, place not given]

[Text] [Marchand] Did France take a step toward peace by receiving Yasir 'Arafat?

[Herzog] What France does or does not do is its business. In our view, Yasir 'Arafat is a terrorist who is seeking Israel's destruction. He is bound by the PLO Charter.

'Arafat leads the only "liberation" organization in history which calls for another people's elimination.

[Marchand] The Palestinian uprising has been going on for 10 months. Can it be defeated by force?

[Herzog] No. You can never solve a problem of this kind by force. But law and order must first be maintained. You can try to do it as we are doing. That takes time.

On the other hand, you can behave like Syrian President al-Asad, who had no hesitation in killing 30,000 people during the Hamah riots, or as the Algerians have behaved over the past few days. That is a very rapid and very brutal method.

The world must understand that the choice is not between negotiations around a table and this uprising in the territories, but between imposing order and having a new Beirut or a new Tehran here.

In the territories, the Muslim fanatics have grown stronger. They can feel the emergence of a group of reasonable people from among the Palestinians.

If we now leave the Gaza Strip, saying: "Solve your problems yourselves," the events in Sabra and Shatila would look like a picnic compared with what would happen then.

[Marchand] Does Israel understand the new Palestinian generation? Do you see hatred in the uprising?

[Herzog] Their hatred is directed primarily at the Arab states and especially at Jordan.

King Husayn, who sensed the danger, has just drawn the logical conclusion and abandoned the West Bank.

The uprising generation has been in contact with democracy all their lives. They are the only Arab population in the world for whom this is true.

There is a great variety of opinions among the Palestinians and a struggle between the generations. The Palestinians are divided into pro-Jordanians, pro-PLO, Muslim extremists, and also a large number of people who want to live with Israel although not under Israel.

A Palestinian State

On the one hand you have our democratic society, which is about to have an election in which the majority will decide.

On the other hand you have very intelligent people with potentially remarkable leaders but who live under the threat of PLO assassins.

[Marchand] Do you think that the Palestinians are entitled to a state?

[Herzog] No. We are opposed to a Palestinian state. The majority of people in Jordan are Palestinians. The Palestinians have 21 countries in which they can live, whereas we have only one.

For 19 years the West Bank and Gaza were occupied by Jordan and Egypt. They had a hundred opportunities to create a Palestinian state. They never did so because that is the last thing they wanted.

President Carter openly said that he had never met an Arab leader who privately admitted to wanting an independent Palestinian state.

[Marchand] Aside from arming, what is Israel doing to prevent a war with the Arabs?

[Herzog] There is a huge national debate about whether we are doing enough for peace in the political sphere. I think that the ball is in the Arabs' court. Only one of them—Al-Sadat—tried and we made peace.

[Marchand] What is at stake for the Israelis in the 1 November elections?

[Herzog] For the first time since the state's creation, it is the question of peace, of the choice between peace and war, which is the focal point of the debates.

[Marchand] In principle, does a big new Likud-Labor Party coalition seem to be a sound solution?

[Herzog] At present the two parties seem to have equal support. Indeed, the situation is very similar to the one in 1984 when I had no choice but to propose that the two big parties form a national unity government. I am not disappointed with the result. It has overcome the state of paralysis in Lebanon and achieved miracles in the economic sphere.

We are gradually moving toward a bipartite system. It is true that there seem to be many parties but the two big parties will have around 90 of the 120 seats in the next Knesset.

[Marchand] Do you want the electoral code to be reformed to prevent votes being scattered among the small parties?

The Zionist Dream

[Herzog] We changed the system at municipal level in 1979. The result was impressive: prominent figures have emerged and are gradually becoming national leaders.

It is absolutely essential to create a system in which there is a direct link between the voters and their elected representative. Without that, we will continue to see the numerous anomalies from which our society suffers. We cannot continue in this way.

[Marchand] Has Israel kept the promises of the Zionist dream, 40 years after its foundation?

[Herzog] Yes, to a very large extent. After World War II, around 100 countries gained their independence. We are one of the six which have remained democratic. Even with the uprising, Israel has only 10 percent of the violence that the United States has.

Despite our environment, we have had the courage to give the Arabs full civil rights. Does anybody in other countries know that we have Druze and Bedouin officers, including one general and six brigadiers?

[Marchand] And yet, is not immigration inadequate?

[Herzog] It has increased this year, notably from Latin America and especially Argentina.

During my visit to Paris the 50,000th French Jew will leave for Israel. The French Jews' contribution is increasingly important. They bring with them all that French society and culture have to offer.

[Marchand] Have you noted a "Gorbachev effect" in the immigration sphere?

[Herzog] There are still many refuseniks who are prevented from emigrating, despite all the requests that have been made.

In the past 15 years we have welcomed 170,000 Jews from the USSR. They are marvelous people. They have transformed our society in many spheres.

Foreign Ministry 'Misunderstood' Egypt on Tabah
TA2110110588 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 21 Oct 88 p 24

[Report by the diplomatic staff]

[Excerpt] Egypt is demanding that Israel implement the Tabah arbitration award and return the area within 60 days, Foreign Ministry sources said last night.

The Foreign Ministry last week misunderstood the Egyptian position, thinking that Cairo had agreed to delay negotiations for 60 days—until mid-December—with no specified date set for the actual transfer.

The mistaken Israeli version was apparently the outcome of a misunderstanding between Cairo and Jerusalem, and poor communications via diplomatic channels.

Israel can no longer legally ask for the timetable to be amended because it did not make its request within 21 days after the arbitration panel published its decision, as specified in the September 1986 arbitration compromise.

Thus, the new government will face the question of how to comply with the Egyptian demand immediately after the elections. [passage omitted]

Soviet Official Warns PLO on Statehood
TA2010163888 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
20 Oct 88 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Our central message to the Palestinians is that they must take advantage of the occasion—perhaps a unique one—to determine their future. Therefore, both the proposed statehood, and the government-in-exile declaration will pose considerable difficulties to the political process in the Middle East.

These remarks were made by Aleksandr Zotov, one of the heads of the CPSU Middle East Countries department, to British Foreign Office officials. This report is regarded by Jerusalem as another confirmation of the reports regarding Soviet efforts to restrain the PLO on the eve of the PNC convention.

Zotov, who is now holding talks in London, made positive remarks about Israel.

He said that the two countries have been natural partners since 1947, and that Soviet Jewry constitutes a bridge between them.

Zotov, who recently met with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres at the Socialist International convention in Madrid, further said that the fact that the Russian language is widely used in Israel contributes to the natural character of the relations between Israel and the Soviet Union.

Security Officials Order Arab Bank Closed
TA2010120888 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
20 Oct 88 p A1, 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef, Rahamim Ya'akov, and 'Ezra Yanuv]

[Text] Security officials have ordered Jawdat Kamal, the head of the Arab Bank, to close the bank's five branches in the territories immediately, in the wake of Yasir 'Arafat's announcement that 1.6 million dinars (over \$4.5 million) had been deposited in the bank's Amman branch to pay the salaries of civil servants fired following Jordan's decision to sever ties with the West Bank.

'Arafat's announcement made it clear that the bank had violated the terms of its license.

Security officials are closely following banking and moneychanging activities in the West Bank after it emerged that despite all the measures already adopted, PLO funds continue to flow to the leaders of the local committees which direct the uprising.

The interest rate in the territories has dropped recently, it was learned.

Settlement Plan Compiled, Partially Approved
TA2010162188 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The Council of Settlements in Judeaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip has compiled a plan according to which 53 new settlements will be set up in the territories within the next 3 years.

The planners told our correspondent Moti Amir that 19 of the settlements have already been approved by the Ministerial Committee for Settlement Affairs.

5 Wounded in Unrest Incidents in Territories
TA2010172688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Five men were wounded today by IDF gunfire in the territories, including youths aged 15 and 17-years-old from the Al-Shati' refugee camp near Gaza. In Hebron, the funeral of the three men killed in yesterday's traffic accident turned into a demonstration.

IDF soldiers fired their guns in order to restore order, wounding one of the residents. In a village near Nabulus, two Arab residents were wounded during riots following the demolition of illegally built houses.

Bus, Train Stoned

TA2010124188 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in English*
1100 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] No 27 bus traveling in East Jerusalem was stoned this morning as it passed through Salah al-Din Street. The windshield was smashed. No one was hurt.

A Haifa-Tel Aviv train was stoned last night. Two windows were broken, and a passenger was slightly injured by broken glass.

The young woman found dead in the Wadi al-Jawz area of Jerusalem last night has been identified as a Jewish prostitute, aged about 30.

She appears to have been strangled at some other location, and the body was then brought to the spot where it was found.

Arab Air Group Protests Venue of Tourism Meeting

JN2010103688 *Amman JORDAN TIMES in English*
20 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) has strongly protested to the British Tourism Authority (BTA) over a planned meeting by the British Travel and Tourist Association in the occupied city of Jerusalem in the coming month.

AACO Secretary General 'Adli al-Dajani sent a cable of protest to the BTA director stressing that the Arab organisation considers this action "untenable and contrary to the spirit of the world community."

Al-Dajani referred to the present situation in the occupied Arab lands and Israel's "suppression of the human rights of the Palestinian people in their own homeland,"

and said that the BTA decision to hold the conference in Jerusalem would be tantamount to condoning "the atrocities perpetrated on the Palestinian nation."

Al-Dajani said that the British Tourism Authority was supposed to represent international leadership in bridging the wide gaps in social, economic and political understanding between the Third World and industrialised nations.

Yet, he said, the decision to hold the conference in Jerusalem would "serve as a stamp of approval to other organisations to violate the sacred territorial and human rights of the indigenous Palestinian people."

West Bank Trade Union Leader Released From Prison

TA2010140588 *Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic*
20 Oct 88 p 1

[Text] Jerusalem—Yesterday the Israeli authorities released Shahir Sa'd, secretary general of the trade unions federation in the West Bank, after a 5-month administrative detention in "Ansar 3" prison in the Negev.

Polio Victim Dies in Or 'Akiva

TA2010150888 *Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST*
in English 20 Oct 88 p 1

[Report from Or 'Aqiva by ITIM]

[Text] Mikha'ela Qeren, 26, who contracted polio one day after the Or 'Akiva polio vaccination drive ended, died yesterday at Mei'r Hospital in Kefar Sava.

Qeren, who worked as a secretary at the Carmel carpet factory here, had a respiratory illness a year ago, but Dr. 'Ofra Havkin, chief district medical officer in Hadera, said she did not believe that this had contributed to her death.

Qeren had been making what doctors considered a good recovery and her death came as a complete shock, doctors who had been treating her said last night.

Husayn on Meeting With PLO, Peres Remarks
JN2110064688 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0600 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Basim al-Mu'allim dispatch from Washington]

[Text] The Jordanian monarch has revealed that a high-level meeting between Jordan and the PLO will be held within a few days.

In an interview with the U.S. ABC television network this morning, the king said he is prepared to form a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation if the Palestinians make a very clear request for this purpose in light of the fact that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

As revealed by ABC, officials from the office of Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who is campaigning in the Israeli election against Yitzhaq Shamir, contributed toward holding this interview [sentence as heard].

Peres earlier told ABC that if elected prime minister, he will be prepared to attend an international conference with Jordan, the Palestinian representatives, and others to realize a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. King Husayn described Peres' remarks as very encouraging and a step forward.

When asked what would happen if Shamir wins the Israeli elections, the king said:

That is the problem; this will be a great disaster.

Information Minister Addresses Editors Course
JN2010163388 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic
1450 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Amman, 20 Oct (PETRA)—Information Minister Dr Hani al-Khasawinah has voiced the media community's pride in the invaluable trust placed in it by His Majesty King Husayn, thanks to the vigilant and responsible role played by the media organs in expressing the Jordanian state's serious attitude toward pan-Arab and national issues and also to their comprehensive efforts to help build a modern Jordan.

During a meeting this morning with participants in the news editing and political material course—currently being held at the training center of the Radio and Television Corporation—the information minister said that the good words voiced by His Majesty King Husayn during his meeting yesterday with the radio and television community—words that expressed his majesty's confidence in his sons who are working in this sensitive

sphere—have bolstered our great national pride and strengthened our convictions on the soundness of the course being pursued by our media organs.

He added that these words have also strengthened our belief in the need to develop this course so that information can play a more effective role in building the potentials of the homeland and enhancing confidence in Jordan, our institutions, and our economy.

The minister went on to say that this development will make the role of media organs more effective in confronting the doubt-casting campaigns seeking to undermine Jordan, its institutions, and its role.

In his speech, the minister discussed the pillars of the Jordanian information policy and said:

The duty and natural task of an information apparatus is to convey truth to people; disseminate a spirit of trust and hope within the people's psyche; and contribute toward the rectification of erroneous habits such as bad consumption habits or unjustified waste consumption in a country such as ours in which all resources are being devoted to development and construction, to confronting the challenges posed by enemies, and to entrenching political and economic stability. [passage omitted]

The information minister touched on the economic, financial, and monetary measures adopted by the government, including those pertaining to austerity and the restrictions imposed on expenditures.

He said that the austerity issue is not a government decision inasmuch as it can be a collective effort in which all must participate.

He added that this will be an effort to rectify the consumption patterns that prevailed in a period when people forgot that Jordan is a country of limited resources and that we have to face up to serious and real challenges, foremost among which is development.

The minister called on the political editors and the news editors to be aware of the importance of the information message with which they are tasked, especially under these circumstances, so that the media organs can convey this message through serious expressions of the state's national and pan-Arab behavior.

The minister said that this will help enhance the standing of the homeland and its citizens.

He added that this will help counter suspicions and attempts to undermine trust and construction efforts and rally the citizens' resources to make their role and participation more effective in building the homeland. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Reaction to Car Bomb Attack

Hizballah Warning Issued

NC2010160088 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1515 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Hizballah has warned against any Israeli retaliation for the car bomb explosion yesterday. Ahmad Qamar, a Hizballah spokesman in Al-Biqa', stated that any Israeli action will have an adverse impact on the Israeli captives held by Hizballah.

The spokesman noted that the warning also covers 4 captives from the Army of Southern Lebanon.

It should be recalled that Hizballah fighters captured two Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon in February 1986. Hizballah later said it had killed one of them, but no body was ever found.

The spokesman also said that his party expects an Israeli reprisal at any moment and that Hizballah fighters have been alerted and are ready to confront any Israeli attack. [passage omitted]

'Over 30 Citizens' Arrested

NC2010154088 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
1500 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] In the wake of the heroic suicidal operation carried out by an Islamic resistance fighter on the Lebanese-Palestinian border yesterday, the occupation forces stormed villages in the occupied border area and arrested well over 30 citizens today.

The occupation forces also brought scores of vehicles into the area this afternoon, including tanks and trucks carrying well over 1,000 soldiers. These forces have started deploying on the hills overlooking Al-Nabatiyah and the western Al-Biqa'.

Meanwhile, all the crossings to the occupied area were closed today. The militia [the South Lebanese Army] and the enemy forces have been put on maximum alert. In their turn, the national and Islamic resistance and the Amal Movement have also put their gunmen on maximum alert.

'Hundreds' Arrested

NC2010162888 *Beirut Domestic Service in English*
1510 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] A wave of hysteria today gripped the Israeli occupation forces and their militia allies in South Lebanon in the wake of a suicide car bomb attack carried out late yesterday against an Israeli convoy just inside Lebanese territory.

Israel admitted that seven of its soldiers were killed and eight others wounded, some seriously, but other sources indicated that the casualties were far higher.

The occupation forces and the militias unleashed a wave of terror against border areas, closing down border crosspoints and waging search operations.

Hundreds of people were arrested and many more questioned by the Israelis who, obviously, were on a standby to attack. Roadblocks were intensified, and hundreds of men in villages in Marj 'Uyun area and in Kafr Shuba and Kafr Rahman were arrested.

Meanwhile, national resistance fighters went on full alert following threats of Israeli retaliation and possible expansion of its occupation of Lebanon. Liberation fighters maintained their watch around the clock as border areas prepared for possible air raids.

Israeli aircraft overflew areas in the south today, but there were no immediate reports of attack.

The suicide attack carried out by Hizballah fighters has been widely hailed as an indication of how a true war of liberation should be waged to free the country from Israeli occupation.

'Warplanes' Fly Over Al-Biqa'

NC2010171588 *(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes have been flying intensively over the Al-Biqa' at low altitude since 1830, for the second time in less than 24 hours.

'Warplanes' Over Sidon, Airport

NC2010193088 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1915 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Since 2020 tonight, Israeli warplanes have been flying over the city of Sidon and the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps as well as over Iqlim al-Tuffah to the east and Iqlim al-Kharrub to the north, staging mock raids and firing flares.

Intensive anti-aircraft gunfire can be heard in the area. On one of their sorties, the Israeli warplanes flew over Beirut International Airport.

Syrian Troops on Alert

NC2010205488 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
2015 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes had overflown Sidon, the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah and 'Ayn al-Hulwah Camps, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and the coastal road as far as Khaldah during reconnaissance flights as of 2020 this evening. The reconnaissance sorties also included the southern coast.

Israeli warplanes carried out mock raids over Iqlim al-Tuffah and Karkha, northeast of Sidon, where the fundamentalists are located, drawing anti-aircraft fire.

According to informed security sources, the traffic along the coastal road has virtually come to a standstill. The PSP gunmen removed their roadblocks from the coastal area, while the Syrians transferred their armored vehicles from the Khaldah crossroads to less exposed areas, readying their anti-aircraft guns.

The Syrians command also put its forces stationed between Khaldah and Ra's Bayrut on alert for fear of an Israeli air sea operation. The same sources added that the Palestinians living in the Sidon camps sounded sirens at 2000, 20 minutes before the Israeli overflights, and asked the inhabitants to take shelter in anticipation of an Israeli operation.

Aircraft Over Mountain, Suburb

NC2110072988 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
0717 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Tension continues to prevail in the suburb, the South, and the Al-Biqa' valley amid fears of an Israeli military operation in retaliation for the car bomb explosion.

Meanwhile, Israeli aircraft have been flying over the mountain and the southern suburb since 0900 today. The planes are drawing anti-aircraft fire. This was preceded by flights over Ba'labakk early in the morning. [passage omitted]

Joint Forces Claim Role

JN2010223088 *Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic*
1925 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces yesterday carried out a daring heroic operation against the Zionist occupation forces inside the so-called security belt in southern Lebanon.

As admitted by the Zionist military spokesman, the operation killed 7 Zionist soldiers and inflicted various wounds on at least 10 others.

A statement issued by the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces said that a car driven by one of their heroes and rigged with 150-KG of the highly-explosive TNT advanced toward a Zionist military convoy consisting of one jeep and a truck at the Saqf al-Tallah gate, 300 meters away from Lebanon's borders with occupied Palestine.

The statement added that the explosion of the car destroyed the Zionist jeep and military truck and also killed or wounded all passengers.

Israeli Warplanes Raid Targets in Sidon Area

NC2110081988 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
0815 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out an aggression against the [word indistinct], Iqlim al-Tuffah, 'Ayn al-Dulb, and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah at 1003 today. The enemy aircraft are being met with intensive anti-aircraft fire. The raid is still continuing.

Second Raid on Sidon Camps

NC2110083188 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
0819 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Further to the report which we broadcast a short while ago, Israeli warplanes attacked a second time targets in Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, 'Ayn al-Hulwah, and Jabal al-Halib areas. The Israeli aircraft are still flying in the area.

According to reports from the South, four Skyhawk planes, supported by Phantom aircraft, carried out the attack. Anti-aircraft fire is still being heard in the area.

Raids Spread to Mashgharah

NC2110083788 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
0832 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] It appears that the Israeli aggression has spread to Mashgharah. A security source reported a short time ago that Israeli enemy planes conducted repeated raids on this town. We will provide you with details as soon as we receive them.

Hizballah Ammunition Depot Hit

NC2110084588 *(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
in English 0834 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] In fresh reports about the Israeli raid a short while ago, the Israeli aircraft have been bombarding positions of the pro-Iranian Hizballah in the region of Masgharah. According to sources of the Hizballah, the Israeli forces have scored a direct hit on an ammunition depot in 'Ayn al-Hulwah.

PLO Ammunition Dump Hit

NC2110091588 *Paris AFP in English* 0900 GMT
21 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Sidon, Lebanon, Oct 21 (AFP)—Israeli warplanes attacked a PLO ammunition dump near here Friday in an apparent revenge raid for a car bomb attack which killed seven Israeli soldiers two days ago, a correspondent reported.

At least two aircraft launched a series of attacks on the arms and munitions depot near 'Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp east of this southern port city. Palestinian sources spoke of "several casualties."

A huge explosion was heard for miles around as the air-to-surface missiles slammed into the depot, operated by Fatah, the mainstream guerrilla group of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Huge columns of black smoke billowed into the air, the correspondent said. [passage omitted]

Raids Near Sidon Continue

NC2110090188 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
0838 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes are continuing their raids over Palestinian and Hizballah positions. According to Palestinian sources, the Israeli aircraft resumed attacks on Al-Miyah Wa Miyah. Israeli warplanes earlier bombarded Mashgharah and posts held by Palestinians and Hizballah in Darb al-Sim, 'Ayn al-Dulb, and eastern Sidon.

Correspondents say the Israeli planes fired several air-to-ground rockets on these targets. Meanwhile, Hizballah says the aircraft blew up a munition depot in eastern Sidon.

The Israeli warplanes also carried out low-level mock raids over Iqlim al-Tuffah. We repeat that the Israeli aircraft again bombarded Palestinian and Hizballah positions in eastern Sidon.

5 Raids Reported So Far

NC2110095988 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
0920 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes have been bombing Palestinian and fundamentalist positions in Al-Miyah Wa Miyah, Darb al-Sim, 'Ayn al-Dulb, and eastern Sidon in the South and in Mashgharah in western Al-Biqah since 1006 today. Five raids have taken place so far, the latest of which occurred at 1035.

Four aircraft, two Skyhawks and two F-16's, conducted the raids while two other aircraft provided cover from a distance. According to security sources, the targets belong to pro-'Arafat Fatah, PFLP, and pro-Iranian fundamentalist organizations.

No details are available on the raid against Mashgharah. Our correspondent says the aircraft fired several air to ground rockets at Palestinian positions east of Sidon and columns of smoke and fire were seen rising from the targeted areas.

Hizballah sources say the attacking aircraft hit a munition depot in Al-Ghuwwarah neighborhood near Al-Hamshari hospital. According to Palestinian sources, the Israeli planes resumed their attacks on Al-Miyah Wa Miyah. The aircraft also conducted low-level mock raids over Iqlim al-Tuffah. The aircraft drew antiaircraft fire and dropped thermal balloons to evade rockets.

Raids Include Western Al-Biqah

NC2110095588 *(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
in Arabic 0949 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] We were informed a short while ago that Israeli aircraft have been raiding Mashgharah and Al-Luwayzah in western Al-Biqah since 1100 hours. It has also been reported that the aircraft raided Maydun as well but this report has not yet been confirmed.

Report Says No Casualties

NC2110104088 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Israeli warplanes have resumed flying over the South and the camps, drawing intensive antiaircraft fire.

Israeli aircraft carried out a series of raids today, beginning at 1010, when four Israeli Skyhawk planes, protected by two F-16 planes, raided targets in the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camp and areas east of Sidon. The Israeli aircraft carried out seven raids in total on the same positions. The aircraft also raided targets in Mashgharah.

Meanwhile, a Hizballah source told our radio that a rocket hit a clinic run by the Islamic Resistance in Mashgharah. The fate of a male nurse working in the clinic at the time is not known. The source added that a Hizballah center in 'Ayn al-Tinah also was attacked.

Another target of a series of enemy raids was the Islamic resistance positions in Al-Luwayzah and Mlita. The source disclosed that the enemy aircraft fired rockets, some of which exploded on impact and others of which had a delay mechanism.

Meanwhile, our correspondent in the South has reported that, according to preliminary information, there has been no loss of life in the east Sidon area because of the state of alert which had been declared in nationalist and Palestinian areas.

The state of alert was called in response to the threats by the enemy leaders to retaliate against the suicide operation which struggler Jal-Hurr al-'Amility of the Islamic Resistance had carried out. Our correspondent added that a Fatah Movement base at the entrance to Al-Miyah wa Miyah, consisting of three floors, was totally destroyed and the ammunition depot in it exploded.

30 Casualties Reported in Raids

NC2110103788 *Paris AFP in English* 1028 GMT
21 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Sidon, Lebanon, Oct 21 (AFP)—Israeli warplanes attacked a PLO ammunition dump and Hizballah positions in southern Lebanon on Friday, killing or wounding around 30 people, correspondents and sources said. [passage omitted]

Israeli warplanes carried out a series of attacks on the arms and munitions depot operated by Fatah, the Palestine Liberation Organization's mainstream guerrilla group.

Palestinian and hospital sources said three Fatah members were killed and seven wounded in the raid on the ammunition dump, which lies near the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah refugee camp east of this southern port city. [passage omitted]

Israeli jets also bombed positions held by the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement in southeastern Lebanon, killing or wounding at least 24 people, the Muslim fundamentalists said.

The air strikes on Mashgharah and 'Ayn al-Tinah were carried out 20 minutes after the attack on the PLO depot. [passage omitted]

26 Casualties Reported

NC2110115388 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1115 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Excerpts] According to a preliminary count by security sources, 26 people have been killed or wounded in this morning's Israeli air raids on armed Palestinian and Hizballah positions in eastern Sidon and Mashgharah in the Al-Biq'a. [passage omitted]

Israeli radio cites Hizballah sources as putting the casualty figure at 24 killed or wounded, while Palestinian sources noted a number of casualties. Other sources have counted 8 people killed and 15 others wounded in Al-Miyah Wa Miyah.

Pro-'Arafat Fatah military official Abu Yasir said one of the Israeli raids was directed against a Fatah position in 'Ayn al-Dulb and a munition depot in Al-Fawwar locality on the Al-Miyah Wa Miyah road.

According to reports from our correspondent, one of the targeted posts was a Hizballah training center, from which armed men staged attacks against Israeli positions in the security belt.

Further on Casualties

NC2110122788 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
1130 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] According to preliminary reports, 36 people were killed or wounded in east Sidon and Iqlim al-Tuffah as a result of the Israeli air raids today.

Security sources noted that the Israeli raids were directed at positions belonging to the DFLP, the Fatah Movement, the Amal Movement, and the Islamic Resistance east of Sidon and in Iqlim al-Tuffah, Mashgharah, and 'Ayn al-Tinah.

A responsible military source in the Amal Movement has made the following statement: During their raid on positions east of Sidon, enemy aircraft fired two rockets at our positions near Maghdushah. Antiaircraft fire was directed at the raiding planes.

The Amal Movement declared a state of alert among its fighters on the confrontation lines with the enemy and reinforced its positions with various antiaircraft weapons.

An Islamic Resistance source said that at 1030 today six jet fighters and two helicopters carried out four successive raids within 7 minutes on Mashgharah. The planes attacked the town's clinic, which belongs to the Islamic Resistance, and the surrounding area. Antiaircraft fire was directed at the raiding planes.

The source noted that the raids left 10 civilian casualties. At the same time, two military helicopters raided Islamic Resistance positions in 'Ayn al-Tinah. This was preceded by eight successive raids against Al-Luwayzah, Mlita, and Jabal Safi, causing material damage.

A responsible source in Hizballah denied enemy radio reports that 24 Hizballah members were killed or wounded. [passage omitted]

'Awn Cabinet Denounces Raids

NC2110133388 *(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon*
in Arabic 1145 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Statement and replies to questions by unidentified reporters given by Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn following a cabinet meeting in East Beirut on 21 October—recorded]

[Excerpt] ['Awn] The cabinet denounced today's Israeli raid against Lebanon. It demanded an end to interference in Lebanon's affairs in order that the government may impose its authority over all of Lebanon and maintain its security inland and on the borders.

[Reporter] In addition to the UAE's recent stand, Egypt and Sudan expressed their stands.

Do you believe that these stands and the consultations the government has held and will be holding would lead to the convening of the Arab League Council, despite Syria's attempts to deal separately with the Lebanese situation?

['Awn] We welcome all initiatives aimed at helping Lebanon end its crisis, particularly the initiatives which emphasize Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

[Reporter] If the Arab Foreign Ministers Council meets, will Lebanon be represented?

['Awn] Naturally. Lebanon will be strongly represented.

[Reporter] What is your comment on the failure of Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, to come to Beirut, since he is now dealing with the situation in Lebanon?

[Awn] I attribute this to the difficulty in coming to Lebanon. He goes to places where there is no difficulty.

[Reporter] Is he holding contacts with the government in this regard?

[Awn] [words indistinct] [passage omitted]

'Unidentified' Gunboats Appear in North
NC2010175888 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1715 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] According to security sources, Palestinian forces stationed in Jabal Turbul in northern Lebanon directed antiaircraft fire at unidentified gunboats that appeared in the open sea this afternoon.

RFL Notes Clashes Among Groups in Sidon
NC2110090588 (*Clandestine*) *Radio Free Lebanon*
in Arabic 0845 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] The South Lebanese Army and gunmen of the extremist Islamic organizations are clashing intermittently on the Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir axes [east of Sidon].

Meanwhile, sporadic clashes are taking place between gunmen manning Palestinian positions and members of the Amal Movement on the Maghdushah axes [in Sidon].

PLO Accuses Amal of Attacking During Raids
NC2110130988 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1215 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Following the Israeli air raids, clashes erupted between Amal and the Palestinians on the Zighdraya and Maghdushah axes and a number of shells fell on the coastal road. A military spokesman for the PLO has accused the Amal Movement of shelling the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp while the Israeli aircraft were conducting their raids.

The spokesman also accused Amal personnel, whom he termed Syrian intelligence agents, of shelling the Palestinians in 'Ayn al-Hulwah. Meanwhile, clashes involving the use of rockets and machineguns are raging between South Lebanese Army and extremist organization gunmen along the Lib'a, Kafr Falus, and 'Ayn al-Mir combat lines.

Syrian Forces Withdraw From 'Ayn Darah Village
NC2010210388 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1715 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] According to the BAYRUT NEWS AGENCY, Syrian forces have suddenly withdrawn from the 'Ayn Darah Village in the Al-Shuf region, leaving behind a small post manned by five soldiers at the village entrance. The Syrian forces have also withdrawn from several points in the nearby area of Al-Mudayrij.

These forces dismantled their positions and evacuated with an estimated battalion of T-54 tanks, and withdrew toward Al-Biq'a on Tuesday.

According to security sources, this withdrawal aims to reduce the Syrian presence in the eastern flank of the 'Alayh District and allows the Druze to move freely in their areas as part of a plan to strengthen the rapprochement between Syria and [PSP leader] Walid Junblatt.

Syrians Reportedly Arming 'Extremists'
NC2110091488 (*Clandestine*) *Radio Free Lebanon*
in English 0830 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Political sources in West Beirut have disclosed to Radio Free Lebanon yesterday that Damascus is working out a plan to support the extremists and to provoke the moderates of West Beirut.

The leading figures in this scenario are Amal leader Nabih Birri and PSP leader Walid Junblatt together with the so-called national forces, each with their different idea of what constitutes the nation.

The Syrians are arming the extremists and training them and are now preparing pro-Syrian leaderships to guide them. The extremists will be used to attack the eastern sectors and, by various means, a number of Arab and Western states.

Group Claims Responsibility for Killing Syrian
NC2010175588 (*Clandestine*) *Radio Free Lebanon*
in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi Unit of the 9 February Organization has claimed responsibility for killing a Syrian soldier called 'Amir Hamadah 'Amir this morning in Al-Jummayzat Quarter, Tripoli.

SLA Soldier Injured in Mine Explosion
NC2110091688 (*Clandestine*) *Radio Free Lebanon*
in English 0830 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Our correspondent in the South has reported that this morning a soldier of the South Lebanon Army [SLA] was wounded when a mine exploded as his patrol passed along the road of 'Arab Salim. Reports also said SLA experts defused five charges placed along the Road of Al-Qantarah.

Amal Group Claims Explosion

NC2110123688 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] The Lebanese Resistance Brigades-Amal has issued the following statement:

While a six-man agent Lahd militia patrol was passing on the 'Arab Salim-al-Suwayda' Road this morning, an Amal resistance group detonated an explosive charge which it had planted.

Two agents were killed and the other patrol members were injured in the explosion. The enemy then raked the surrounding area of 'Arab Salim with 12.7-mm machineguns.

Fighting Reported on Al-Shawakir Line 21 Oct

NC2110123788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Clashes involving the use of heavy caliber automatic weapons and rockets took place on the Al-Shawakir combat line this morning, lasting about 1 hour. A security report said that shells fell on the coastal road, making traffic on this road dangerous.

Amal Movement sources said that four shells fell on the Al-Safa' roadblock on the coastal road without causing any casualties.

Al-Huss Speaks on Return From Damascus

NC2010103988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss returned from Damascus this evening after he and Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni had met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and reviewed all aspects of the situation in Lebanon.

In his arrival statement, Prime Minister al-Huss said:

The visit was to continue the discussion with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on the developments of the situation in Lebanon in light of local, Arab, and international developments.

The discussions dealt with the situation in general, particularly the consequences of obstructing the Chamber of Deputies session to elect a chamber speaker, the results of the Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi's visit to Damascus, and developments in the situation on the Arab and international levels.

Responding to a question about the Arab League secretary general's visit to the Syrian capital, Prime Minister al-Huss said:

The Arab League secretary general is making serious efforts to convene the Arab League council at the foreign ministerial level to discuss the developments in the Lebanese situation and to adopt a stand on them.

Maronite Patriarch 'Willing' To Visit Syria

NC2010164488 Beirut Domestic Service in English
1510 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The Maronite patriarch, Nasrallah Sfayr, announced today that he was willing to visit Syria if such a trip would contribute toward resolving the present crisis, but he noted that, and I quote, so far he had no direct contact with Damascus, unquote.

The Maronite patriarch blamed the United States and Syria and the Lebanese officials for blocking efforts to resolve the Lebanese crisis and warned that the nation was on the path of fragmentation.

Patriarch Sfayr stated that a war between rival militias would only lead to greater suffering in the country which had no president, had two governments, and is suffering from political paralysis.

In an interview with REUTERS, the patriarch admitted that Lebanon was not only the victim of external interests and interference but also the victim of the conduct of some of its leaders.

He conceded that he had not achieved much progress in his efforts due to obstacles put in the way by the United States and Syria, which he described as the most influential powers in Lebanon.

Patriarch Sfayr said that the present situation had no immediate solution, but he stressed that he was willing to visit Syria if such a visit could be fruitful.

The patriarch said that good neighborly relations should exist with Syria and he stressed the need for mutual cooperation for the benefit of both countries, but he declared that there could be no concessions on the issue of sovereignty.

Patriarch Sfayr was critical of previous attempts to elect a president, describing them as a violation of the democratic system and of freedom. He said that he was not opposed to reforms demanded by the Islamic community and was not against change. He called for a balance in powers between the Muslim and the Christian communities.

Patriarch Sfayr declared that there were attempts to divide Lebanon and stated that he was opposed to such a trend. He described partition as a disaster for all Lebanese of all communities and for the region as a whole.

The patriarch said that the American-Syrian agreement last month to back Mikha'il Dahir as the sole candidate for the presidency triggered the latest crisis.

Patriarch Sfayr met this morning with Deputy Shafiq Badr who later declared that parliament still existed and deputies were one family and wanted to meet together to discuss the affairs of the state.

He said that in the event of a meeting of parliament, most problems would be resolved but he declined to name the party responsible for the failure of parliament to meet.

Patriarch Sfayr later met the Federal German ambassador who stated after the hour-long meeting that the key to a solution in Lebanon was agreement between the Lebanese.

He said that he had expressed his support for the efforts of the patriarch and had conveyed the concern of Germany over the present situation in Lebanon.

The German ambassador declined to comment on initiatives of France or any other country and declared that Germany backed the efforts of the European Economic Community to help Lebanon.

Attempt on Life of Bank Governor Denied

NC2110111288 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 1017 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Rumors were spreading in banking circles this morning to the effect that an attempt was made on the life of Dr Edmond Na'im, governor of the Bank of Lebanon, and that he is in very critical condition. Dr Na'im, however, denied these rumors in contacts with him.

Financial sources pointed out that the rumors were spread to cause confusion in the financial market by playing on the nerves of citizens.

The effects of these rumors were evident in the rise and fall in the price of the dollar at times today.

Foreign Minister al-Shar' Receives Junblatt

JN2010104588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1015 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this morning received Walid Junblatt, PSP leader and Lebanese minister of public works, transport, and tourism.

The talks dealt with the developments on the Lebanese scene.

Khaddam Receives Lebanon's Al-Huss, Al-Husayni

JN2010131588 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1215 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at 1100 today Husayn al-Husayni, Lebanese Chamber of Deputies' speaker, and Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanon's prime minister.

The meeting was attended by Faruq al-Shar', the foreign minister, and Nasir Qaddur, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Nabih Birri, Lebanese minister of justice, hydroelectric resources, and southern affairs, and Walid Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works, transport, and tourism, joined the meeting.

The talks dealt with the situation on the Lebanese scene.
[passage omitted]

Iraqi Dissident Al-Hakim Meets PNSF Delegation

JN2010211188 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1915 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Damascus—His Eminence Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, received a PNSF delegation at his place of residence in Damascus today.

The PNSF delegation comprises Colonel Sa'id Musa [Muraghah], and Brothers Abu Khalid al-'Amlah and Abu 'Ali Mustafa.

The discussion dealt with the situation in the region and in Lebanon.

His eminence also received PSP leader Walid Junblatt.

The discussion dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the Iraqi regime's role in supporting the Zionized isolationist forces.

Lebanese, Palestinian Leaders Make Statements

JN2110091488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
2115 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Excerpts] The national Lebanese and Palestinian political leaders have denounced the suspect 'Awn-Ja'ja'-Saddam alliance which is concocting plots and planning to partition Lebanon and establish a second Zionist statelet on Lebanese territory.

In statements given to Syrian Arab television last night following the meeting attended by the Lebanese national forces and the PNSF, these leaders vehemently condemned the Iraqi regime's fascist interference in Lebanese internal affairs as well as its extension of material and military aid to the Zionized Ja'ja', 'Awn, and Lahd.

The national leaders also urged closure of the national Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian ranks to confront this danger, which is not only posed to Lebanon but to the entire Arab nation.

They asserted that the fascist regime in Iraq will face the same end as that of Nuri al-Sa'id.

In his statement to the television, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said the meeting attended by the national Lebanese and Palestinian forces decided to form a joint Lebanese-Palestinian command to confront the conspiracy being concocted against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples through the establishment of a racist, Zionist statelet which is considered an extension of the Zionist entity.

Birri said the conferees adopted a series of field measures and arrangements on various levels to confront all aspects of this conspiracy.

Birri added: What is taking place in Lebanon now does not harm Lebanon only but also the entire Arab nation, particularly the Palestinian people and fraternal Syria.

Regarding the Ja'ja'-'Awn-Saddam alliance, Birri said:

The Iraqi regime tried to make world public opinion believe that it was fighting against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the name of Arabism.

But where is such Arabism now, in view of the alliance with the Zionist entity against Lebanon and its Arab people and also against Syria and the Palestinian people's interests?

He asserted that the ongoing scheme will be confronted. Meanwhile, he pointed out that in 1983 the multinational forces, along with the Israeli invasion, could not kill the Lebanese people or their willpower. [passage omitted]

PSP leader Walid Junblatt stressed the need for more effective confrontation of the separatist plan in Lebanon, the plan of the Zionized entity.

He said there is no room for waging on any political settlement or possibility with the Ja'ja'-Awn-Lahd group, the Zionist-Western-Israeli triad.

Junblatt added:

The Saddam regime will end the same way as Nuri al-Sa'id. What is required is practical confrontation in Lebanon as well as the closure of ranks and the liquidation of anyone who hesitates to join the confrontation.

The next step should be closure of the Palestinian national ranks, closure of the military ranks, and the confrontation of anyone who hesitates.

Of course, we will not initiate fighting but at least we should defend ourselves, Junblatt added.

Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], secretary of the Fatah Provisional Command, said hostile alliances are being made in the Lebanese arena against the Arab nation.

The parties to these alliances are Ja'ja' and 'Awn on the one hand and the Iraqi regime, which began to join the battle against both the national Lebanese and Palestinian forces and Syria, on the other.

Col Abu Musa urged unification of the national forces to confront these alliances and the hostile scheme with utmost strength and determination.

He added that numerous decisions were made in the national Lebanese-Palestinian meeting and some of these decisions will be implemented soon.

The secretary of the Fatah Provisional Command said:

We in the PNSF have decided to place all of our forces in the service of the Lebanese national movement's forces, relying on the brothers in Syria whose major role is confrontation of the hostile scheme.

Iranian Charge, Information Minister Hold Talks
LD1910153088 Tehran IRNA in English 1421 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] Damascus, Oct. 19, IRNA—Iran's Charge d'Affaires in Damascus 'Ali Marvi discussed bilateral relations with Syrian Information Minister Muhammad Salman here Wednesday.

In the meeting Marvi was briefed on the outcome of the conference of information ministers of the Islamic countries, held in Saudi Arabia last week.

UK Parliamentary Delegation Meets With Al-Shar'
JN2010140088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' today received a British parliamentary delegation comprising Robert Adley and Robert Hicks from the Conservative Party; and Andrew Faulds and Stewart (Randly) from the Labor Party.

The meeting was attended by Shakir Is'ayyid, head of the People's Assembly Arab and International Relations Committee.

Discussion revolved around Syrian-British relations.

The parliamentary delegation expressed the conviction that concern over resuming relations between Syria and Britain is in the interest of the two countries and in the interest of a just peace in the region.

The parliamentary delegation arrived in Damascus last night. It was received at Damascus International Airport by a number of People's Assembly members.

Delegation Visits Al-Qunaytirah
JN2110130688 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] The British House of Commons delegation visited the city of Al-Qunaytirah today. It was acquainted with the traces of the Israeli authorities' brutal destruction of the city before withdrawal from it.

The guest delegation put down a note in the province's record of visits in which it denounced these acts of destruction which included the entire city of Al-Qunaytirah.

Khaddam, Talas Confer With Norwegian Minister
JN1910210088 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Norwegian Defense Minister Johan Jorgen Holst at 1130 today.

Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah attended the meeting. Talks dealt with the situation in the region.

General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, also received the Norwegian defense minister and his delegation this evening.

Teh head of the Syrian delegation to the armistice commission attended the meeting. Talks dealt with relations between the two countries' Armed Forces and ways to develop them.

Radio on Iraqi Role in Lebanon's 'Partition'
JN2010150088 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] After all that has happened so far, it is naive to portray the developments in Lebanon—such as the obstruction of the presidential elections session and the election of a speaker to the Chamber of Deputies—as a disagreement over the candidates for the vacant positions or over the venue of elections.

The developments have proven that the obstruction of elections constitutes a step in a prepared scheme to fragment the legitimate constitutional institutions in the country and all the symbols of Lebanon's unity—territory and people—that have remained in preparation to fragment the entire Lebanese entity and create many sectarian entities to be subjected to the influence and control of the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine.

Lebanon's entrance into the stage of elections to fill the vacant positions of the president and the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies was the starting point for the movement of the Lebanese gangs who are involved in Israeli schemes to divide Lebanon to implement this scheme.

This fact torpedoes all pretexts made by the isolationists to cover their role in destroying Lebanon's unity as well as the justifications of all calls to provide an international protection or to find a secure venue for the convening of the sessions.

It seems as if the issue is that of the security of the venue or deputies, and not the security, peace, and existence of the country that is targeted by the partitionist gangs linked with Israel through fabricating such pretexts and excuses to undermine the very bases of the Lebanese entity.

In light of this dark picture and imminent dangers threatening Lebanon at the hands of the partitionists—in case they achieve their purposes—the Arabs, wherever they are, have the right to feel concern, not only over the future of that country but also over the entire Arab security which will be directly threatened by the establishment of entities similar to the Zionist entity on a new part of the Arab territory.

This should prompt all honest Arabs to exert efforts to expose and contain not only the role of the tools implementing the scheme to divide and Zionize Lebanon but also the role of those who are trying to provide an Arab cover for that role.

It has become clear that the Iraqi regime's role in providing an Arab cover for the partition of Lebanon scheme and in supplying the Zionist factions in that country with all forms of armament and material support is no less serious to the Lebanese people and the entire Arab nation than the role of the tools that are implementing this scheme.

The Arabs' feelings of fear and concern should at least prompt the Arabs to break the barrier of silence on those who placed the Iraqi arms next to the Israeli arms in the hands of the enemies of Lebanon's unity and Arabism—the hands of the Zionist factions—in order to confront the Lebanese people and their nationalist and progressive forces and who have exposed their treason in the face of Arabism which they falsely claim they are affiliated with.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Reportedly Suffering 'Kidney Trouble'
*OW2010155788 Beijing XINHUA in English
1521 GMT 20 Oct 88*

[Text] Islamabad, October 20 (XINHUA)—Head of the Kabul regime Najibullah is suffering from poor health but unwilling to go abroad for treatment for fear of being taken over by his opponents, the AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) said here today.

Najibullah has developed a grave kidney trouble requiring immediate major operation and treatment abroad, ANA quoted reports from his doctor as saying.

Najibullah has lost faith even in his closest associates and for fear of takeover by his opponents in his absence he is not willing to travel abroad for treatment advised by his doctor, ANA said.

According to another report, Major 'Abdul Ghaffar Ghopan [name as received], who had crossed over recently to the side of the mujahidin, has said that the overwhelming majority of the urban areas controlled by the Kabul regime are with the mujahidin, this is why they are conducting successful operations in cities and towns.

Major 'Abdul Ghafur Ghopan was in charge of Asmar Brigade, defected recently to the mujahidin and helped them capture Asmar town, Konarha Province in eastern Afghanistan.

He said that the Najibullah administration claimed to have constructed a network of security fortresses around Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, to make it unconquerable.

But Afghan capital was being hit by heavy guns within a range of three kilometers. This proves that the people in Kabul are providing help to the mujahidin, he added.

104th Note to Submitted to UN Mission
*LD2110060088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0456 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Text] Kabul, Oct 20, (BAKHTAR)—The 104th notice of the Republic of Afghanistan on the five cases of violations from the second item of the first document of the Geneva agreements by Pakistan was submitted today to the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), reports the Liaison Office of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan with the UNGOMAP.

The notice gave all-sided informations on nature of the violations and asks UNGOMAP to assess the said violations according to the seventh item of the fourth document of Geneva agreements.

The notice also demands from UNGOMAP to inform the Republic of Afghanistan and representative of the UN secretary general of its results.

U.S., Egyptian, Pakistani 'Advisers' Killed
*LD2010141688 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1330 GMT 20 Oct 88*

[Text] Seven U.S., Egyptian, and Pakistani advisers were recently killed in Samandar region, in the vicinity of (Koh-i Zobayda), Zabol Province.

The BIA reports that one U.S. adviser, two Egyptian advisers, and four Pakistani advisers were killed when they entered Afghan territory together with armed extremist groups to commit acts of subversion and terrorism.

Their motor vehicle, loaded with weapons and ammunition, hit a mine and exploded.

Kabul Airport Closed Again by Rocket Attack
*BK2010170488 Hong Kong AFP in English 1643 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Kabul, Oct 20 (AFP)—Mujahidin guerrillas closed Kabul airport with a barrage of rockets for a second day Thursday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

Passengers trying to leave Kabul on a Moscow-bound flight said the rockets hit the civilian terminal shortly after midday Thursday, cancelling flights in the afternoon. An Air-India flight for New Delhi left earlier in the day.

On Wednesday, a barrage of rockets hit the terminal and Soviet installations at the airport leaving nine dead and 17 injured by official count.

Senior airport security officers said three of the dead and one of the injured were Soviet citizens.

Rockets also hit downtown Kabul Thursday and one missile landed a few hundred meters (yards) from Afghan secret police headquarters. There were no reports of casualties.

(Two children died and their parents were injured Thursday when 10 rockets hit Kabul, the Soviet news agency TASS reported in a Kabul dispatch monitored in Moscow. It did not elaborate.)

A spokesman for the Central Committee of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) said he thought there was no connection between the rocket attacks and a party plenum that began here Wednesday.

Afghan President Najibullah told the plenum that the party was committed to finding additional ways of persuading the mujahidin to join a coalition.

The mujahidin have so far ignored the calls.

2 Killed in Missile Attack on Kabul 20 Oct
LD2010165388 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The criminal extremists launched six surface-to-surface missiles this afternoon on the residential areas of the 9th District of Kabul city.

According to BAKHTAR's military section, as a result of one missile hitting the house belonging to Ghulam Dastagir of Qala-e Wakil; Babi Masuma, an 18-year-old girl; and Muhammad Saber, a 17-year-old boy, were martyred. Ghulam Dastagir and his wife were injured.

The report adds that the other missiles hit nonresidential areas and have not caused any losses or damage.

'Extremist' Groups Clash; Casualties Reported
LD2010073688 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0433 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul, Oct. 19, BAKHTAR—Infightings among the extremist groups have become more intense recently.

Five innocent inhabitants including two women in Nobarkh Subdistrict, Ghazni Province, was killed due to the infightings took place recently between two armed groups, Sia and Nasr.

Similarly, armed clashes among the extremist groups in the past two days in the suburbs of the provinces of Faryab, Samangan and Badakhshan left behind 18 killed and 13 wounded.

Also, due to the armed clashes among different extremist groups of Rabbani on the division of looted goods eleven persons were killed in the suburbs of Pashtunkot District, Faryab Province, and nine others wounded.

Likewise, due to the armed clashes among the extremist groups of Gulboddin and Rabbani in the suburbs of Badakhshan Province and people of Jamiyat band between Samangan and Bamian area nine persons of the belligerent groups were killed and four wounded.

Qandahar Province 'Warmongers' Crushed
LD2010145788 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1330 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] A group of warmongers who took up positions in the Daman District, Qandahar Province, were crushed yesterday by blows inflicted on them by the Armed Forces.

During this operation, 7 of the warmongers were killed, 3 seriously injured, and 10 enemy weapons were destroyed.

According to another report, a number of subversive elements who, by firing heavy weapons, were striving to disrupt peace and security in the surroundings of Qandahar city, were crushed yesterday.

During this operation, 9 of the extremists were crushed and 17 were seriously injured.

One rocket, one mortar, one rocket launcher, and several enemy hideouts were also destroyed during this operation.

A report from Arghandab District, Qandahar Province, says that as a result of blows inflicted by the Armed Forces, 16 extremists concentrated in this district were crushed yesterday, and 27 were injured.

The report adds that as a result of this operation, one rocket, one mortar, one rocket launcher, and five hideouts of the enemy were destroyed.

According to another report from Qandahar Province, blows inflicted on 18 October by the Armed Forces against extremists in the surroundings of Daman District and Takhteh Pol Subdistrict, resulted in the extremists' losing 49 men and 17 injured. As a result, 19 enemy hideouts and dozens of their weapons were also destroyed.

The BIA military section adds that the units of the Armed Forces in the surroundings of Qandahar Province had a high combat readiness and were inflicting decisive blows on subversive groups attempting to disrupt peace and security in the surroundings of this province.

Armed Forces Crush 175 'Extremists' in Zabol
LD2010155288 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1330 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The Armed Forces recently inflicted blows on armed extremists in Zabol Province, crushing 175 of these criminals and injuring 164 more.

The BIA military section reports that during this operation, the country's Armed Forces also seized a number of the extremists' weapons.

According to another report, two armed extremists were crushed and a number were seriously injured on 18 October in Amar Khel village, Sorkh Rud District, Nangarhar Province, by the Armed Forces stationed in the district.

Armed Forces' Operations in Paghman Detailed
LD2010215088 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] As a result of operations in Paghman District, one 75mm gun was found in the Dara-e Zargar region, Paghman District, yesterday. Three wireless communication units were also seized.

Another report from Konduz Province states that 37 warmongers were crushed during a mopping-up operation on 18 October in the Zarkharid, Raultepa, and Chehilchinar areas.

The report adds that during the operations 42 extremists were injured, and 1 mortar, 1 missile, and 2 heavy machineguns as well as a number of other enemy weapons were destroyed.

British Rockets Discovered in Shakar Darreh
LD2110060488 Kabul BAKHTAR in English
0548 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Kabul, Oct 20, (BAKHTAR)—Three British long-range surface-to-surface rockets which were placed in the suburbs of Shakar Darreh, Kabul Province, by extremists were detected on Wednesday [19 October] by the Armed Forces.

Similarly, 18-kg explosive materials, toy bomb and a battery exploding surface-to-surface rockets were also captured by the Armed Forces.

Islamabad Notes Mujahidin Attack on Badakhshan
BK2110025488 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the mujahidin have captured an important military garrison in Baharak in northeastern Badakhshan Province.

This garrison was captured at the beginning of this month, and 700 of the 800 Kabul administration's forces there either laid down their arms or were taken prisoner.

The capture of Baharak implies that the whole province of Badakhshan, except for Faizabad, has come under the control of the mujahidin.

Meanwhile, the mujahidin carried out rocket attacks on Kabul for the 2d day yesterday.

It was not known how many persons were killed or wounded or the extent of damage.

Rockets fell on Kabul and a missile fell near KHAD headquarters [as heard].

Mujahidin Foil Attempt To Recapture Town
BK2110114788 Islamabad Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] In Afghanistan, the mujahidin are reported to have forced the Kabul regime armored units to flee when they attempted to recapture the town of Takhteh Pol in the Qandahar area.

An agency report says the Kabul regime aircraft, which supported its troops, dropped bombs in the area which could not hit the targets.

In another operation, the mujahidin attacked the KHAD office in Ghazni, killing five of the office-bearers.

Foreign Ministry Briefs Journalists on Plenum
LD2010200788 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] This afternoon a briefing session was held in the Foreign Affairs Ministry press center in connection with the recent session of the PDPA Central Committee plenum.

The session was attended by many journalists from various countries. Muhammad Wali, member of the PDPA Central committee and head of the organization section of the party Central Committee, explained the basic points of the report by Esteemed Najibullah, secretary general of the PDPA Central committee and president of Afghanistan, in connection with foreign policy and the political-military situation of Afghanistan.

Replies were given to journalists' questions.

Tribal Affairs Ministry Name Changed
LD1910223788 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] The President's Office of the Republic of Afghanistan reports that Decree No 819 dated 29 October on changing the name of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to the Ministry of Border Affairs was approved by Esteemed Najibullah, the president of Afghanistan.

Iran

'Text' of Foreign Ministry Statement on POW's
LD2010210188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] We begin our news reportage at this hour with the text of a Foreign Affairs Ministry statement about exchanging Iranian and Iraqi POW's.

A statement has been issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran about exchanging POW's, as noted in Article 3 of UN Resolution No 598, and concerning the Iraqi point of view:

In the name of the Exalted. The Foreign Affairs Ministry of Iran, in connection with the return of POW's, as noted in Article 3 of Resolution No 598, and the positions adopted by Iraq in this regard deems it necessary to point out the following:

In view of the humane aspect of exchanging POW's and the necessity to implement this as soon as possible, Iran unilaterally began releasing infirm and injured Iraqi POW's nearly 3 years ago.

Following the cease-fire and in view of the need to implement the articles noted in Resolution No 598, in accordance with the UN general secretary's implementation plan, Iran released a further 72 injured and infirm Iraqi POW's, as well as 16 Egyptians, in order to attain complete and lasting peace and in the hope that Iraq too would respond by giving priority to releasing injured and infirm POW's.

At present the IRI is fully prepared to release more injured and infirm Iraqi POW's immediately after a response in kind by Iraq.

Although, Iraqi officials have been claiming that a balance has been reached as regards the number of POW's taken by the two sides, the total number of registered Iraqi POW's in Iran is around three times the number of Iranian POW's registered in Iraq.

Therefore, if Iraq is interested in facilitating the task of exchanging the POW's, it must allow the Red Cross to register all Iranian POW's in Iraq.

At present, Iran has, in the course of talks in New York, declared its agreement in principle with the general secretary's four-point proposal for retreat, exchange of POW's, reticence about enforcing the right of inspection and search of vessels, as well as dredging the Arvand River under Article 4 of Resolution No 598 and the 1975 [Algiers] accord signed between Iran and Iraq.

One reason for the above agreement was that of observing the article covering exchange of POW's and its humanitarian aspect, as we consider this approach to be the most speedy method for exchanging the POW's and reaching a lasting peace.

During peace negotiations the Iraqi regime has openly been obstructing progress of the resolution and implementation of other articles, as well as the exchange of the POW's.

On the basis of a view held by the UN secretary general it was agreed that on the day of the cease-fire, 20 August, Perez de Cuellar was to announce the timing for implementation of other articles of the resolution.

On that basis, 3 weeks after the cease-fire, exchange of the POW's should have been started, to be completed within 3 weeks after the date so that all POW's on both sides could return home.

Iran immediately announced its agreement with the secretary general's proposal at that time while Iraq rejected it.

Concerning the above facts and the policy adopted by Iran vis-a-vis complete implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, the release and immediate exchange of the POW's in the above framework are our explicit wishes.

We hope that the Iraqi regime refrains from obstructing and pursuing a policy of wasting time and stalling, and allows the UN secretary general to implement his plan for fulfilling Article 1 of the resolution and also allows the chronological progress in the plan to implement other articles of the resolution, including that of exchanging POW's.

Iraq also should allow the Red Cross to register Iranian POW's in Iraq as a prelude to implementing Article 3 of the Resolution.

Instead of adopting tactics to avoid Iraqi public opinion—a public which has been witnessing obstructionism by the regime during the peace negotiations, resulting in the delay of the return of their captured offspring—the Iraqi regime should cooperate with the secretary general and sincerely pursue the implementation of the resolution because people cannot be deceived for long.

Velayati Reiterates Position on POW Exchange
*LD2010125288 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—Austrian Ambassador Herbert Traxl met with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Thursday and submitted him a message from his Austrian counterpart.

Traxl, referring to the growing trend of Tehran-Vienna relations, expressed hope that mutual ties would continue to expand in the future.

In response, Velayati, referring to the Iran-Iraq peace talks, said the Islamic Republic has sincerely cooperated with U.N. Chief Javier Perez de Cuellar whereas the Baghdad regime has practically obstructed the talks by raising irrelevant issues.

Velayati also denounced Iraq for refusing to respond to the U.N. chief's new formula on implementing the Security Council Resolution 598.

"We will approve of the exchange of prisoners of war (POWS) only within the framework of Resolution 598 and on the basis of its third article."

Velayati said "We will never agree to the exchange of POWs out of the Resolution 598 or the U.N. chief's implementation plan."

Iraq, in a purely propaganda move and in an attempt to escape public pressure, has proposed the exchange of POWs before the execution of other articles of the Resolution 598.

Rallies Held To Mark Fall of U.S. 'Den of Spies'
*LD2010184488 Tehran IRNA in English 1815 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—Students are to stage massive rallies throughout the country on November 2, to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the takeover of the U.S. espionage den in Tehran.

The Union of Islamic Association of University Students, announcing the above today, said this year the rally will be held two days earlier because Thursday and Friday are holidays. "The Great Satan (United States) will be humiliated yet again," it added.

Iranian Muslims from all walks of life will join university students to express their dislike and hatred of the United State's plots against Iran, said the union.

November 4, 1979, revolutionary students following the imam's line took over the U.S. den of spies in Iran, and got possession of some highly important documents and sophisticated machinery which proved Washington's dirty espionage activities in its supposed embassy.

King Fahd Reportedly Wants Improved Relations
*LD2010120288 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 20 Oct 88*

[Text] According to REUTER, King Fahd, in a move to restore relations with Iran, has ordered that the mass media end the propaganda war against Iran.

According to a report by the official Saudi news agency, King Fahd last night told his information minister that the Saudi radio and press should not under any circumstances attack Iran.

He added: Our problems with Iran are of a limited nature, and cannot continue.

King Fahd expressed the hope that he will receive similar reaction from the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Majlis Speaker Notes Manpower Shortages
*LD2110150688 Tehran IRNA in English 1450 GMT
21 Oct 88*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 21, IRNA—Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the country is faced with shortage of skilled and technical manpower at present.

If the economic movement of the country accelerates, we should absorb skilled manpower from abroad and programs should be designed to encourage the return to Iran of skilled Iranians now residing abroad.

Speaking to a group of professors, students and staff of science and industry university here the Majlis speaker reminded the role of universities in post-war reconstruction and stressed training of skilled manpower and promotion of the scientific level of university graduates.

About reconstruction projects, the Majlis speaker said its budget has been determined and there is no problems in this regard. The main lines are clear and there is not any significant difference in the outlooks of planners.

Everyone agrees that the country should not become dependent on foreign countries, he said.

Khamene'i Chairs Reconstruction Council
*NC2110073588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 21 Oct 88*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the first session of the Consultative Council for Reconstruction Strategy was held in the presence of President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, who is also chairman of the committee in charge of reconstruction strategy, yesterday afternoon.

The Consultative Council is made up of ministers and members of the Majlis Planning and Budget Committee, as well as a group of top experts in various fields.

The report notes that, at the beginning of the meeting, the president said that the consultative council's main responsibility is to prepare effective grounds for the implementation of the two main duties of the state reconstruction committee: strategy and prioritization.

He then explained the views of his holiness the imam on the extensive dimensions of reconstruction in all fields.

During this session discussion also focused on the rights and duties of the Consultative Council for Reconstruction Strategy and the rights of its specialized committees, as well as ways to extend consultative services to the reconstruction council.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Dorri-Najafabadi and Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri were elected as chairman and vice chairman of the council, respectively.

It was agreed during the course of the discussion that the seven specialized committees in the fields of agriculture, mining and industries, commerce and finance, infrastructural services, social services, housing, and city planning should begin active operation and each be headed by one of the ministers.

The report adds that the Consultative Council for Reconstruction Strategy is to meet once a week and, after adopting final decisions on issues put forth by the seven specialized committees, is to submit these to the reconstruction council.

Khamene'i Gives 'Guidelines' to Lebanese Muslims
*LD2010205088 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—A Lebanese Hezbollah delegation briefed President 'Ali Khamene'i here Wednesday on the latest developments in Lebanon including the plots underway against Muslims and the Islamic movement in that country.

Khamene'i answered that further unity among Muslims is the only way to counter the plots to dismember Lebanon, which he added is a blatant ignoring of Muslims' rights.

The president also gave the delegation necessary guidelines to Lebanese Muslims in this regard.

Khamene'i Address Gendarmerie Graduation
*LD2010133188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 12 Oct 88*

[Text] The graduation ceremony of the 8th course of the Center for the Military Training of the Gendarmerie was held at the 22 Bahman military base. Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council and president, attended the ceremony. This is the subject of our first news report:

Also attending the ceremony were the imam's representative and the head of the Gendarmerie's politico-ideological center; the commander of the Gendarmerie; other commanders of the Armed Forces; clerics; various countries' military attaches in Tehran; heads of politico-ideological offices of the Gendarmerie; and a number of the esteemed martyrs' families.

The representative of Iran's Gendarmerie's politico-ideological center submitted a report on educational activities. Afterwards the president and the chief of the Supreme Defense Council awarded prizes to the accomplished lecturers and the first class degree students.

Then Mr Khamene'i gave a speech in which he said: Iran's Gendarmerie managed quickly and speedily to get on the path which the revolution and the Islamic Republic requested and which was necessary for the preservation of our society's honor.

He stressed: Today in the Gendarmerie, organization is based on Islamic ideology which evolves from a faithful spirit. If, God forbid, there are some in this organization who have not managed to reconcile themselves with the revolution's goals, then they should come to their senses to bring about more uniformity within this organization.

Mr Khamene'i then referred to the Gendarmerie's role during the war. During the 8 years of the imposed war, the Gendarmerie did not limit itself to guarding the frontiers and the roads, he said. It was also present on the battle scene and gave some martyrs to the revolution, he added.

The chief of the Supreme Defense Council also stressed to the trainee youths: You should boost your military preparedness so that in case of any threat from the enemies, you will be able to play your role well. You should also try to perform the hardest of tasks with good morale.

The president concluded by speaking on the duties of the Gendarmerie forces: The Gendarmerie's presence on the roads and highways and in rural areas is in itself a great responsibility. In performing this responsibility, the Gendarmerie should honor the people in order to create a feeling of safety among them.

Further on Visit of GDR Legislative Official

Meets With Khamene'i

*LD2010160588 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT
20 Oct 88*

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20 IRNA—Parliamentary vice speaker of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Gerald Goetting in a meeting with President 'Ali Khamene'i here Thursday lauded the Islamic Republic for its acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598.

Goetting, saying that his country will do its best to consolidate peace in the Persian Gulf region, expressed hope that Tehran-Berlin ties would further expand in the future.

In response, President Khamene'i welcomed the expansion of mutual relations and noted that the two countries could cooperate with each other during the postwar reconstruction period.

Elsewhere in his talks, the president cautioned that the world would not be safe unless the domination of big powers over small countries comes to an end.

Referring to Baghdad's subversive efforts to obstruct implementation of U.N. Resolution 598, Khamene'i said "while we have accepted Resolution 598 as a solution to the problems between the two countries we see that Iraq is not really serious in its approach. This proves Iran's belief that the Baghdad regime is not interested in peace."

The president also called on international bodies to put pressure on the Baghdad regime to abide by Security Council Resolution 598.

Holds Talks With Velayati

LD2010161388 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—Visiting parliamentary vice speaker of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Gerald Goetting in a meeting with foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati Thursday called for expansion of Tehran-Berlin political, economic and cultural ties.

Goetting also expressed hope that nuclear-free regions in Europe and elsewhere would lead to a world-wide disarmament by the end of the 20th Century.

In response, Velayati pledged Iran's support for Berlin government's campaign against nuclear weapons.

The foreign minister, pointing to extensive cooperation between Iran and the GDR in the international arena, including the United Nations, expressed hope that the GDR foreign minister's planned visit to Tehran in early 1989 would help further strengthen mutual ties.

Meanwhile, Velayati also received the new Bulgarian and Polish ambassadors, Gospodinov Ivanov and Stefan Szymczy [name as received], as well as the outgoing Danish ambassador Ritto Andreasen.

Received by Musavi

LD2010175688 Tehran IRNA in English 1744 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 20, IRNA—Visiting parliamentary vice speaker of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Gerald Goetting held talks with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Thursday on Tehran-Berlin ties and other issues of mutual interest.

Goetting hailed the Islamic Republic for its efforts to attain a lasting peace in the region and said the Berlin government was ready to help the peace process. He also called for expansion of bilateral relations.

In response, Musavi, outlining the Islamic Republic's viewpoints on world peace and security, noted there were many problems in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East which must be solved immediately or else world peace might be endangered.

Premier Musavi denounced the Iraqi regime for disregarding international conventions and warned that Ba'thist Baghdad's illogical behaviour might seriously jeopardize regional security.

The GDR parliamentarian arrived here on October 18 at the head of a delegation.

Meets With Majlis Speaker

LD2110140788 Tehran IRNA in English 1140 GMT
21 Oct 88

[Text] Tehran, Oct. 21, IRNA—Visiting parliamentary vice speaker of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) Gerald Goetting in a meeting with Majlis speaker and acting commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani described Tehran-Berlin ties as "very good".

Referring to the signing of a contract on restriction of nuclear weapons and annihilation of short-range missiles, he expressed hope that other positive steps would be taken towards international disarmament.

The German Democratic Republic supports goals aimed at saving the world from atomic weapons until the year 2000 [as received] and believes no problem could be solved through military means today, adding that political solutions are needed to preserve humanity.

Goetting commended Iran's acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 (which seeks an immediate end to the Iraq-Iran war) and said his country followed up with keen interest Iran's efforts to establish a durable peace in the Persian Gulf region. He stressed that war in this region endangers the entire world.

Calling for the implementation of Resolution 598, he said it will strengthen security and friendship in the Middle East.

In response, the Majlis speaker said, universal peace is favourable and war has no benefits. Even when there is a winner in a war it is coupled with numerous problems and catastrophes, he stressed.

On the current trend in U.S.-Soviet ties, he said it inspired hope to some extent and further described it as a new step to strip the world of critical dangers.

This change of policy of course, the speaker said, is more witnessed in the Soviet Union. It is the shift in the way of thinking of the Soviet leadership which is leaving these positive [words indistinct] in the world today, he noted.

Together with this optimism, he said, there is one point of concern which "we should not overlook." He elaborated by saying that a reconciliation between these two powers may cause more troubles for weaker states.

"By doing so they will solve their problems but those of the weaker countries not attached to the superpowers should do something to get rid of their (superpower) domination. "Of course it would be a matter of pleasure for us to see a complete nuclear disarmament (agreement) if they could reach it."

Turning to the Iraq-Iran war, the acting commander-in-chief said those who favored peace during the war-time are not very serious now.

He said the interests of the big powers requires them to prefer strained relations between neighbouring countries. They may be against a country's victory, he said, but are definitely in favor of disputes "because quarrels serve their interests."

Elsewhere in the meeting, they discussed expansion of Tehran-Berlin ties and formation of a joint Iran-GDR commission. Goetting arrived her on Oct. 18 heading a delegation.

Musavi-Ardebili Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons
LD2110122088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] We begin this news report with today's Friday prayers sermon in Tehran, which was delivered by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili, the president of the Supreme Judicial Council, reported in the Friday prayers sermons on the progress of the peace talks and on the obstructionism of the Iraqi regime and its allies in the implementation of the articles of UN Resolution No 598.

He said: The international community, which strongly favors peace, is now remaining silent about the Iraqi regime's obstructionism and stalling tactics. It should be aware that Iraq's aim is to hinder the establishment of a committee to determine the aggressor.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili stressed that the international community should learn more about Saddam. He said: While the peace talks have not been achieving any results, the Iraqi regime has taken a stand against the Muslims and is moving toward imposing a partition in Lebanon through his support for Michel 'Awn.

The heads of the Arab countries, who supported Saddam in the Iran-Iraq war in the name of Arab nationalism, have now chosen to be silent about the Lebanese issue.

The president of the country's Supreme Judicial Council continued his sermon by referring to the country's reconstruction and the need for the people's participation.

He said: Just as the people played an extensive role in the war, they should also play an important role in reconstruction. He said: The first step in the reconstruction of the country is to provide security, that is, to follow the law and respect it.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardebili concluded his sermon by addressing Iranians who have been living abroad and who wish to return to their homeland. He said: These

people can return to the country, providing they accept the living conditions in Iran and abide by the Islamic regulations. Then we will receive them.

Mansuri, Ganji-Dust Discuss Afghan Situation
NC2010203088 Tehran Television Service in Persian
1700 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Weekly political roundtable discussion with Javad Mansuri, deputy foreign minister for Asian-Oceania affairs, and Mr Mohammad Ganji-Dust, head of the Mideast non-Arab political studies group, moderated by Afshar, correspondent of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in Tehran; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Afshar] I wish to thank you for accepting our invitation to come here. Mr Mansuri, in the present circumstances, the Soviet Union has announced that according to its earlier timetable, it will withdraw its forces from Afghanistan.

On the other hand, most of the party leaders believe that the Soviet Union will not completely withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. Three days ago, Mr Burhanuddin Rabbani [mujahidin leader] said that the choice of a person like Yuliy Vorontsov as the new Soviet ambassador to Kabul—a man who is a deputy in the Foreign Ministry and a prominent figure in Soviet foreign policy—confirms his opinion that the Soviets do not wish to depart completely from Afghanistan.

What is your view on the reason for choosing Vorontsov as ambassador to Afghanistan and how do you assess the opinions of the Afghan party leaders?

[Mansuri] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] The Soviet Government's decision to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan in the past year is one that they had never made before.

Such a decision was followed by the 10th round of the Geneva talks, and documents were exchanged and signed among Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States, stipulating that the Soviet Union should withdraw all its forces from Afghanistan by the month of Bahman [21 January-19 February 1989] and that no Soviet forces should remain after that date.

On the other hand, the present Kabul government does not, in the opinion of all political experts, have the capacity to resist and confront the hydra-headed problems that will appear after the departure of the Soviet forces, as it has neither a popular base, nor the necessary ability to administer the country.

It does not even have the cadres required for the purpose. In addition, at present only 20 to 25 percent of Soviet soil is at the disposal of the Kabul government...

[Afshar, interrupting] Afghan soil.

[Mansuri] Yes, Afghan soil. As you see in the Soviet forces' presence, this is the extent of their ability for administration. Thus, if the Soviet forces depart from Afghanistan, naturally the Kabul government may not be able to control the country even to this extent.

Therefore, the Soviet Union decided that this problem should be resolved so that a government could take power in Kabul that would work with the Soviet Union but yet not be pro-Islamic from an ideological point of view. These are the two main issues confronting the Soviet Union, and it wishes to resolve the Afghan issue in a manner that will settle these two issues.

The Kabul government also wants a share in the future government in Afghanistan. This transitional phase needs a strong man in Kabul, and for this reason the Soviet Union selected Vorontsov with much haste, contrary to all norms of diplomacy, and sent him to Kabul.

Prior to this, last week we witnessed a Moscow reception for the Afghan Prime Minister Hasan Sharq that is usually reserved for a head of state.

It thus appears that the Soviet Union has concluded this present government cannot (?control) the situation and that it is therefore necessary for a political power to be present in Kabul during the transitional phase.

On the other hand, the mujahidin have also sensed this and stepped up their operations this past week. This state of affairs is naturally a source of apprehension for Kabul and the Soviet Government.

It appears that Vorontsov may bring about changes in Kabul and may even open the door for talks with mujahidin. There were some reports on this during the past few days and the Soviet Government may take some steps in this area in the coming weeks.

In any case, what is important is that the Kabul Government should resolve this issue to the satisfaction of the people, taking the Soviet Government's viewpoint into account as well. This is what Vorontsov is seeking.

[Afshar] Mr Ganji-Dust. When the Soviet Union declared that it is to withdraw its forces from Afghan soil within the framework of a timetable, political circles and political observers thought that the Soviet Union and the United States had reached a consensus on the future government in Afghanistan. First of all, do you agree that they reached such a consensus on Afghanistan?

If they did, then how do you think such a government should be set up? There was the general impression, even before the Geneva accord was signed, that there had been a sort of concurrence between the two superpowers on the Afghanistan issue which envisaged the country's future. [passage omitted]

[Ganji-Dust] It is worth noting that this new strategy adopted by the Soviet Union—in principle, that is, of withdrawing its forces from Afghanistan, seeking a political solution for its plans in Afghanistan, and, as Mr Mansuri stated, Mr Vorontsov's arrival as ambassador, especially at the present juncture when the political situation of its neighbors, Pakistan in particular, are in a kind of political vacuum—indicates that the Soviet Union is primarily seeking to completely pursue its policy formulated with the United States and mutually agreed upon, and to definitely remove its forces. It is thus trying to settle the crisis politically.

[Afshar] Mr Mansuri, you mentioned in your remarks that a large part of Afghan soil has been liberated by the Afghan mujahidin and is under their control.

The mujahidin have also announced that five of the Afghan provinces and about 80 cities in the country have been liberated and are under their control.

However, we see that they have set up a transitional or interim government in another country, not their own, even though they have liberated a major part of their country. Why do you think that this government is not being transferred to Afghan soil?

[Mansuri] The interim government is naturally set up for the time when they will assume power of the central government. This 7-member coalition has set up a government that can really be termed a government in exile, or a transitional government.

When they take control of the central government, then the groups that have been carrying on the struggle during this period and have a share in the difficulties of Afghanistan will then reach a consensus to administer the country by an interim government. This government will arrange for nationwide elections to establish a national majlis. That majlis will bring an official or legal government into being. [passage omitted]

Until all Soviet forces have departed from Afghanistan, the announcement of such a government will naturally not be welcomed by others. At this moment, it is not opportune for the mujahidin to take over power or remove the Kabul Government.

Therefore, until the complete departure of the Soviet forces and the fall or toppling of the present Kabul government, it would be more welcome if the mujahidin were to announce an interim government as now they are not anywhere near to controlling the government. [passage omitted]

[Afshar] Mr Mansuri, we recently witnessed changes in the Soviet leadership cadre where the (?conservative) leaders who had ruled the Soviet Union for decades were removed and the Gorbachev supporters who follow a new policy came into power.

They probably wish to adopt a newer approach to foreign policy. It is natural that this will have an effect on Soviet policy regarding Afghanistan. Could you please tell us what the effect of this will be?

[Mansuri] Actually, the difficulties stemming from Soviet forces' presence in Afghanistan have forced the Soviet leaders to change their position. These changes are being viewed as reforms in the general domestic and foreign policy. When they will be effective is another matter.

Even if this were not so, the concomitant difficulties for the Soviet presence are so numerous that they forced the Soviet Union to change its policy. Therefore, we can say this is a totally different matter regarding all those internal changes in the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

The Soviets do not want the mujahidin to reach Kabul in the usual manner and to drive the Soviet forces from Afghan soil. They wish to make an exit according to a so-called timetable, an accord agreed upon previously.

This is because the Soviet Union seems immensely concerned about its prestige, and wishes to resolve the Afghan issue so that it can have something resembling a government in Kabul, even though it is not the same group as now. In any case, it is extremely important to the Soviet Union not to suffer something akin to the humiliation of the United States in Vietnam.

[Afshar] Mr Ganji-Dust, in view of the fact that you have been an ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Afghanistan...

[Ganji-Dust, interrupting] To Pakistan.

[Afshar] Yes, to Pakistan. As you know, Ziaul Haq was in power in Pakistan, but was not very optimistic about the indirect talks with Afghanistan in Geneva. He mentioned this many times in his interviews. This was the reason for the slow pace of the Geneva talks.

Now that Ghulam Ishaq Khan has taken his place, as it were, could you tell us whether his policy will be the same as Ziaul Haq's, or is he more optimistic about the Geneva talks?

[Ganji-Dust] There is no doubt that Ziaul Haq had a special policy on the Afghan issue that was not endorsed by all or most of the parties in Pakistan, particularly the opposition parties which did not see eye to eye with him. He had certain objectives in this regard, some of which pertained to his own position and some to the strategic issues of Pakistan and its security.

It may be said that he wanted to create a balance between the pressure of the United States and the [interests of] Pakistan. The Afghan issue had immense importance for

the United States as well and definitely served to save him from much of the pressure that the United States could have exerted on Pakistan.

It is possible that he was pursuing long-term strategic issues for Pakistan's security in this regard. Perhaps he wanted a government to be established in Pakistan that would have special cordial ties with Afghanistan and for the Kabul-Islamabad axis to be a strong and homogeneous one to act as a foil against the opposition forces of Pakistan. [passage omitted]

Now the parties in Pakistan are confronted with a unique phenomenon. The brunt of the whole issue fell entirely on Ziaul Haq's shoulders, and he alone handled it.

Junejo also tried to become involved and to get the upper hand in the matter, and perhaps it was due to a disagreement over this that the Cabinet and the National Assembly were subsequently dissolved.

The Afghan problem rested with Ziaul Haq for the 9 years that it was discussed. Now the parties have been confronted with reality, and Ghulam Ishaq Khan is not in a position to make any decisions singlehandedly. In his capacity as acting president he can make an effort to adopt a neutral position and to refrain from imposing his personal views.

It is natural that his government is transitional and that those with whom he is working cannot make all the decisions pertaining to Afghanistan. Therefore, there will be a sort of hiatus in Pakistan, and it is for the parties to see how to tackle this matter. Until now, public opinion expected everything to come from Ziaul Haq, and the parties were uninvolved. Now, Pakistani public opinion is focused on the parties, and the Afghan issue is a crucial matter confronting them.

On November 16 when the Pakistani elections take place, they will have to face this issue. It is being speculated that, as I mentioned, perhaps the Soviet Union may also try to take advantage of this vacuum and tread a so-called political path in Afghanistan.

After 16 November, we shall be able to see clearly how the parties will be forced to tackle this outstanding issue—that is, the presence of nearly 400 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan—and how they handle it.

[Afshar] Mr Mansuri, recently we heard reports that two members of the Afghan Politburo were removed from office and nearly 100 members of the party arrested. There seem to be two analyses of this.

One states that Najibullah is striving to perpetuate his government after the departure of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan. The other says that the changes in cadres in

the party ruling Afghanistan were linked to the changes and reshuffling of Soviet cadres. I wish to ask your opinion of these analyses. Is there any other opinion on this matter?

[Mansuri] This is not a new phenomenon in Afghanistan. Normally such coupist and imposed governments indulge in such moves occasionally in order to show that they heed the opinions of the people and to eliminate sources of popular discontent. [passage omitted]

We do not consider it an extraordinary phenomenon. I think that Najibullah wishes to portray himself as one who has removed elements of murder, discontent, and pressure, and has arrested them or removed them from their posts; otherwise, it does not appear to be an important measure.

However, if there is a fundamental change, it will not be on these lower levels; it will be a purge in the higher echelons, from the top leader down.

[Afshar] Regarding the departure of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, a series of differences surfaced in the ranks of the 7-member coalition on the issue of a provisional government and its ties with the West. We also witnessed hostile confrontations in Herat and Qandahar among the parties.

In your opinion, when the Soviet forces have completely departed from Afghanistan, how will these differences effect the future?

[Mansuri] The issue of differences among tribes and nationalities on the one hand and factions and parties on the other is present in all countries in varying degrees. In Afghanistan, the superpowers, particularly the Soviet Union, have launched an earnest effort in the past decade to spread discord among nationalities and groups. [passage omitted]

We think that the people of Afghanistan—in view of their experience of the Islamic revolution in Iran; that is, the unity during the revolution, in the aftermath of its victory, during the war, and the postwar issues—will benefit from this remarkable experience.

We are of the opinion that the world's present mentality is such that it thinks these differences in Afghanistan may give rise to some internal problems, but this will not occur. This is particularly true because a large number of Afghans came to live in Iran, visited Iran many times, and became acquainted with our officials. We feel that this experience will have an effect on them.

However, we must certainly not be unaware of the mischief-mongering of foreigners. They hatch a new plot every day to create a rift among all people. This is an important and fateful issue for all Afghan leaders who are now at a sensitive juncture in Afghanistan's history.

I think that in the past two centuries, Afghanistan has not been at such sensitive point as it is today. Today Afghanistan's future is being written.

Will a nationalistic government come to power? Will a nationalistic but seemingly leftist government come to power? Will a full-fledged provisional government take the reins of power? Will a Muslim group take over? All these are destiny-making factors in Afghanistan's future.

These issues have a direct relation to the cooperation, unity, and cohesion which can be created among the Afghan leaders. If it were not so, then civil and internecine strife might even make people feel that perhaps conditions were better when foreign forces were in their country, as at least they provided a semblance of security. This would be extremely dangerous. It is for this reason that we have briefed our Afghan brothers on this issue.

Ziaul Haq also stressed this issue, and he regularly warned the Afghan mujahidin leaders that the greatest danger threatening them is disunity. He said: If you are united, the Afghan issue will be easily resolved.

We have seen in practice that if they even cooperate a little, they make great progress, whether political or military. We believe that these differences pertain to the time when they did not have the necessary maturity. Now the Islamic revolution has raised the mental awareness in the world's Muslims to a great extent, and obviously those who are our neighbors have benefited from a greater awareness.

[Afshar] Mr Ganji-Dust, one of the propaganda axes employed by the Soviets to justify occupying Afghanistan is the U.S. influence among the Afghan mujahidin. Recently some Afghan mujahidin leaders visited the United States and met with the U.S. President.

Could you tell us what kind of influence the United States has among the Afghan mujahidin and comment on the motivation and composition of these forces which are at war with the Kabul regime?

[Ganji-Dust] There are two factors. First of all, the superpowers' tactic is to justify their presence in this region and their influence. Whenever we tell the Soviets that they have usurped Afghan soil and entered foreign territories against the nation's will, they use the excuse that the United States has infiltrated and spread its influence, and so on. Of course, having been in the region, the Soviets are aware of the hatred of its people for the presence and influence of the United States.

We should tell the Soviet Union that they are using the sensitivity of the people and the U.S. influence as a pretext for their presence, and that they should know that these people (?represent) the sentiments of all Muslim people in Afghanistan.

If they have so much sensitivity about the presence of the superpowers, it is impossible to expect such a nation to tolerate the influence of the United States. This is one part of the matter.

However, there are some groups without the people's backing who are the liberal, Westernized types in every region. We also had this problem earlier, and we still have it in Iran. They are totally different from the masses of the region's people.

This is a fact, not a mere slogan, and the people's reaction against the presence of the superpowers in the region is such that every just and realistic individual will be compelled to acknowledge it.

There is a group that still dreams of the United States' return to the region, providing an easy and comfortable life for themselves in this way. The extent of their influence is limited to their concept of the old tribal feudalism which is anachronistic in the 20th Century. Naturally, such ties cannot last long. [passage omitted]

[Afshar] I thank you once again for participating in this program. [passage omitted]

Dehloran Satellite Receiving Station Operational
NC1910105088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] As a result of the efforts of the repair and maintenance unit for television and FM transmitters, the satellite receiving station at Pahlavani center, in Zarrinabad District, Dehloran Province, became operational yesterday.

According to the Central News Unit, this receiving station, which has 80 watts of power, will make it possible for the 9,000 residents of the district and neighboring villages to view the first network programs of the Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Channel 12.

RESALAT Warns Against Misinterpreting Policy
NC1810122488 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
9 Oct 88 pp 1, 12

[First of two-part editorial: "Leaning Toward Principles"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] In the course of various political discussions following the acceptance of Resolution No 598 to develop a new policy, mention has been made of safeguarding the ideals of the revolution, as well as revolutionary principles and leanings.

An almost subliminal and mysterious but calculated campaign has been initiated to make people think that officials have been divided into two groups: one as vociferous as ever in repeating the slogans of the past, and the other ostensibly having changed its interpretation of former patterns.

It goes without saying that political circles abroad are also sticking their noses in, on the basis of "their future interests" and to "consolidate their position," and are airing their views on "radicalism" and "liberalism" in Iran. They have even gone so far as to mention names of political personalities belonging to the supposed factions!

The fact is that no tested and tried political theory has yet evolved for identifying any such parties or generalizations and judgments regarding the country's political figures.

However, in order to assess the development of "extremism" or "conservatism" or leanings toward certain principles, we should study the following questions carefully:

1. How did the principles of our revolution evolve and manifest themselves?
2. What is the leadership's role in formulating these principles? and
3. Have specific political views been formulated overtly in our country so that we can claim to have patterns to differentiate? [passage omitted]

If we examine the question carefully, we see that one of the problems of detailed political analyses is the establishment of erroneous patterns, without any clear cut idea of interrelationships or individual positions.

There is no doubt that Islam has its own slogans, and the government has its own specialized slogans, each geared to a certain direction and motive, but they are not the same. [passage omitted]

Now we will return to discussion of the possibility of leftist and rightist leanings. When someone talks of safeguarding ideals and principles, we should determine which of three tenets he is talking about and which position he envisions for himself. Is his opinion based on the principles of Islam, the principles of the revolution, or the principles of government?

If our interests in foreign policy lie in forging extensive foreign relations, observers deem this the height of moderation, and any subsequent slogans endorsing principles or leanings toward principles are termed breaks with moderation and a return to allegiance to the leadership. These perceived breaks should not be interpreted as rightist or leftist.

These terms can have a tangible meaning only when we have a set pattern of principles laid down by the leadership, so that all patterns can be compared and contrasted. In this way the extent of extremism and moderation can be gauged.

It is obvious that we do not see any set pattern among officials that separates them from the leadership. Certain trends at the executive level become labeled extremist or moderate but should be attributed merely to managerial cadres' gaining experience, not political patterns!

RESALAT Editorial on Implementing Policies
NC1810143388 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
11 Oct 88 pp 1, 12

[Second of two-part editorial: "Leaning Toward Principles"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] On the basis of our political analysis of government, we understand that members and departments of the government are merely instruments for implementing its policies, not formulating them. This, however, does not imply that all views should be ignored.

Obviously, holding views, airing them, and displaying expertise are also necessary. But formulating and specifying policies are the prerogative of the leader who has the last word.

In addition, no procedure or viewpoint has any legitimacy or credibility on the political scene except that which accords with the policy set down by the leadership. Its correctness can be gauged by the results achieved.

We can thus measure the performance of officials implementing policies against this criterion. Thus we will be able to differentiate between those who are really "principled" and those who "claim to be principled." [passage omitted]

In order to be able to perform duties better, the hierarchy of government officials—as an instrument for implementing government policies in all fields, especially in the system's internal and foreign affairs—should itself generate the necessary ability and efficiency.

It should be able to discern at every juncture the "formulation of principles" by the leadership and should mobilize all its resources for its work without permitting any personal attitudes to intervene.

This is considered the most important, valuable, and specialized trait of officials in the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. It is obvious that if this were not so, the work of the officials in charge of government would be disrupted.

This is because our political position in society is linked to our religious beliefs. Prior to their selection by the people or the people's representatives, our officials have to be the "religious emulators and political followers" of the leader and are introduced as such to society and thus gain credibility. Naturally, every action which is opposed to this principle will meet with resistance.

In conclusion, regarding the discussion on that group of activities which pertains to views of foreign circles, we should state that the terms rightist and leftist—of deviation from principles or dividing officials into extremist and conservative groups—stems from ignorance and lack of ability on the part of foreign political circles to recognize the three-fold dimensions of our policy: religious, revolutionary, and governmental aspects. These are based on the political and religious views and role of the leader in his selection and implementation of each policy.

It is a natural corollary that with these political objectives, these foreign circles should endeavor to create a chasm and rift among the officials and suspicion among the people to create an atmosphere of political tension to lessen the prestige of the government. [passage omitted]

ETTELA'AT on Need for 'Freedom of Speech'
NC2110113188 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian
15 Oct 88 p 2

[Unattributed commentary under the headline: "Freedom of Speech"]

[Text] In his second sermon yesterday, the temporary Friday imam of Tehran referred to "freedom of speech."

Freedom of speech complements freedom of thought. No one can prevent a human being from thinking, even though his thoughts may be directed toward negating the clearest facts.

When a human being has the ability to doubt the existence or even the oneness of God in his mind, then obviously God intended the human mind to be able to fly to the farthest horizons, to search, to cross the bridge of doubt and to achieve "true" peace.

Since no method or means can prevent a human being from thinking, once he does not have the opportunity to think and when he senses an unsure atmosphere, he will become a source of resistance to the system and society. As in a market where people are offered the choice of good-, fair- and mediocre-quality goods, ideas and thoughts—though illogical—should be expressed.

The way in which the prophet of Islam and the imams, especially Imam Sadiq, peace be upon him, treated those who denied the principles of religion shows that Islam's approach to views and ideas is an open one.

During the first decade of the revolution and on various topics—particularly the war—opposing ideas and views rapidly created opposition and sometimes even militant groups.

The prevention of any view or thought from turning into a resistance and opposition cell under the new conditions can be achieved only through "freedom of speech" and of criticism.

Moreover, if the atmosphere in society prevents criticism, then the possibilities of committing mistakes will be many; and this will hold us back in this fast-moving world.

Pakistan

Preparations Made for December SAARC Summit
BK1910160088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] A meeting in Islamabad today under the chairmanship of President Ghulam Ishaq Khan reviewed the preparations for the summit conference of the countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC]. Necessary directions were issued for appropriate arrangements during the summit.

The 3-day summit conference will begin on 29 December and will be preceded by meetings of SAARC officials and foreign ministers.

The meeting was attended by Federal Ministers Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattak, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Dr Mahbubul Haq, and Mahmud A. Haroon, and senior officials.

Iran's Besharati Holds Talks With Yaqub Khan
LD1910172388 Tehran IRNA in English 1644 GMT
19 Oct 88

[Text] Islamabad, Oct. 19, IRNA—Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan today lauded the Islamic Republic for its cooperation with U.N. chief Javier Perez de Cuellar for implementation of Security Council Resolution 598.

Speaking to Iran's Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati here, Yaqub Khan also expressed satisfaction over the growing trend of Tehran-Islamabad ties and called for exchange of delegations by the two countries.

In response, Besharati briefed Yaqub Khan on the latest developments in Iran-Iraq peace talks within the framework of Resolution 598 and the 1975 [Algiers] accord.

Besharati also called on international organizations to put pressure on Iraq in order to put an end to its hindrance of the U.N.-mediated peace negotiations' progress.

The two sides also discussed the latest developments in neighbouring Afghanistan and expressed hope that the situation in that Muslim country would return to normal.

In a separate meeting here this morning, Besharati held talks with his Pakistani counterpart Humayun Khan [name as received] on Tehran-Islamabad ties and other issues of mutual interest.

Besharati arrived here on October 18.

Meets With Foreign Secretary

BK1910154588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] The first deputy foreign minister of Iran, Dr 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, who is currently on a 3-day visit to Pakistan, called on Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in Islamabad today.

They exchanged views on the regional situation and on matters of mutual interest and reaffirmed the determination of the two brotherly countries to further consolidate their cooperation.

Earlier, Dr Besharati met with the foreign secretary and exchanged views with him on regional issues, including Afghanistan.

Received by Ghulam Ishaq Khan

LD2010204688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Islamabad on the meeting between Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati and Acting President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad 20 October]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Besharati, who is in Pakistan on a visit, met with Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistan's acting president, in the Presidential Palace this morning.

During the meeting, Besharati conveyed warm greetings from President Khamene'i and gave a detailed report to the Pakistani president about the latest peace talks between Iran and Iraq.

Referring to the reasons for Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution No 598, he said:

We never wanted the war; it was imposed on us. Seven years of the imposed war had passed when Resolution No 598 was approved by the Security Council.

However, without rejecting it, we did not rush to accept it. World leaders maintained that Resolution No 598 was the best solution, and when we saw that the world accepted the resolution, we accepted it.

However, now that we have accepted the resolution, the Iraqi regime is obstructing the wish of the world community and of the people of the two Muslim countries of Iran and Iraq.

Ghulam Ishaq Khan thanked the Iranian delegation for their visit and lauded the indestructible bonds between the two Muslim countries of Iran and Pakistan. He extended warm greetings to President Khamene'i and to Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

He said: We welcome Iran's acceptance of Resolution No 598 which opens the way to peace in the region.

He added: We accept that the 1975 [Algiers] agreement delineates your border and that it is an international agreement. If it should be that such agreements are not honored, I do not think any border can remain inviolate or that there will be peace.

During the meeting, views were exchanged about the future of Afghanistan and about the need to defend the rightful wishes of that country's people, and emphasis was given to the increasing expansion and strengthening of relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.

Indonesian Navy Chief Calls on Defense Minister
BK2010102888 Islamabad Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The visiting chief of staff of the Indonesian Navy, Admiral Rudolf Kasenda, called on the defense minister, Mr Mahmud A. Haroon, in Rawalpindi this morning and discussed with him matters of bilateral interest.

He also met the chairman-designate joint chiefs of staff committee, Admiral Ifikhar Ahmad Sirohey, and held talks on matters of bilateral importance.

Barter Trade Agreement Signed With Bulgaria
BK2010154388 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] Pakistan and Bulgaria today signed a barter trade agreement in Islamabad, providing for an exchange of goods worth \$160 million from each side.

Under the agreement, which will be valid for 1 year, Pakistan will export to Bulgaria cotton textiles, raw cotton, cotton yarn, cotton products, light engineering goods, leather goods, and rice; while its imports from Bulgaria will mostly include machinery and other equipment.

NWFP Asks Surrender of Unlicensed Arms
BK2010150588 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu
1400 GMT 20 Oct 88

[Text] The NWFP Government has issued a notification asking people possessing unlicensed arms and ammunition to surrender them at the nearest police stations within a week.

Persons not complying with this notification will be liable to punishment of up to 14 years' imprisonment under the Pakistan Arms Amendment Ordinance 1988.

Sri Lanka

Search Operations Conducted in North, East
BK1910160188 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] Seven LTTE men and PKF [peacekeeping force] personnel were killed during search operations by the peacekeeping force in the northern and eastern parts of Sri Lanka during the last 24 hours. More than 20 LTTE men were apprehended.

Ten 82-mm mortar bombs were also unearthed during search operations near (Venerikulam).

In another incident LTTE militants killed two Tamil civilians in Muttur area last night.

The Indian high commissioner in Colombo, Mr J.N. Dixit, called on the prime minister in New Delhi today and briefed him on the latest situation in Sri Lanka, particularly after the commencement of the election process for the northeast provincial council.

The high commissioner also apprised the prime minister of the progress in the implementation of the India-Sri Lanka agreement and the commencement of the campaign for presidential elections in the country.

The provincial council election is to be held on the 19th of next month. The filing of nominations for this closed on the 10th of this month. The presidential election in Sri Lanka is scheduled to be held in December.

14 Indian Soldiers Killed by 'Terrorists'
BK2110131388 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English
1158 GMT 21 Oct 88

["OANA/pool" Item]

[Text] Colombo, 21 Oct (LANKAPUVATH)—Terrorists killed at least 14 Indian soldiers in two attacks in Sri Lanka's [name indistinct], official sources told LANKAPUVATH.

The sources said that terrorists blasted an Army truck at Parawa in eastern Batticaloa District, killing a junior officer and eight soldiers, and around the same time, another gang of terrorists gunned down an Indian patrol clearing a railway track off [name indistinct], killing five men at Cheddikulam in northern (?Vavuniya).

Operations Against Militants Ordered Halted
BK2010061988 Hong Kong AFP in English 0606 GMT
20 Oct 88

[Text] Colombo, Oct 20 (AFP) - Sri Lankan security forces were Thursday ordered to halt operations against anti-government militants for a week in a bid to restore peace in the troubled island, the national security minister announced.

Troops have been asked to call off cordon-and-search operations against those responsible for "politically motivated killings", Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said here.

Officials said it was an apparent reference to the Sinhalese militant Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP or the People's Liberation Front) which has carried out attacks against ruling party men, security forces and other rivals.

Mr. Athulathmudali said the JVP was responsible for nearly 500 political murders in the past year and a lightning strike in most parts of the island Wednesday in which one man died after a clash with police.

The government will also expedite on a priority basis the release of some 788 political prisoners against whom specific charges have yet to be made, he said.

The minister said the move was unilateral and aimed at restoring normalcy in the country, and to "give a chance to those involved in political murders to stop those acts and join the democratic path."

He expressed the hope that the group will respond positively to the government initiative and said the government may extend the truce if militants accepted it.

Mr. Athulathmudali said the authorities had no contacts with the JVP but the intention was to create a climate of peace to hold "free and fair" presidential elections due in December.

"What we are trying to show is that in a complicated situation, the government is trying its best to have the elections...and save lives of innocent people. We want to make the elections free and fair.

"This (truce) is to convince the ordinary people that we are doing our best to restore normalcy. So we are making the first move hoping it will be accepted," he said.

The announcement came after weeks of agitation and widespread violence throughout the country and demonstrations by workers and students demanding the government to dissolve Parliament and hold general elections.

During a strike last week in southern Matara district, a hotbed of JVP activity, at least 14 protestors were shot dead by security forces.

The JVP is violently opposed to the July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord, which sought to end a bloody Tamil separatist campaign, and under which New Delhi has some 49,000 troops on the island's north and east.

Police Use Tear Gas To Disperse 'Unruly Mob'
BK2010063988 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English
0427 GMT 20 Oct 88

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 19 Oct (LANKAPUVATH)—Six policemen were injured, a number of vehicles damaged, and the flow of traffic disrupted, when an unruly mob hurled bricks, rocks and stones at the police this morning in Ratmalana, in the outskirts of Colombo.

Police were compelled to use tear gas to disperse the unruly crowd. No civilian sustained any injuries in this skirmish.

Official sources told LANKAPUVATH that workers of four major factories and the railway yard in Ratmalana were forced by outsiders to come out of their workplaces and demonstrate on the Galle Road.

The sources said that when police arrived at the scene around 1100 hours [0530 GMT], the workers went back to their places of work, at which unruly elements began pelting the police with rocks and stones.

Police had to use tear gas to disperse the unruly mob and bring the situation under control. Some suspects responsible for inciting the disturbances have been identified.

Six policemen suffered minor injuries during the scuffle but no civilians were injured, official sources said. They also said that four police vehicles, two civilian vehicles, two private buses and a Sri Lanka transport bus were damaged.

Meanwhile, the Joint Operation Command announced that the curfew in Matara has been lifted.

Delhi: UNP Manifesto Hails Accord With India
BK2110093088 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Excerpt] The ruling United National Party has said that it shall build upon the positive achievements of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement through dialogue and reciprocity.

In a manifesto for the forthcoming presidential election scheduled in mid-December, the party said the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement was signed to obtain India's assistance to restore peace and law and order in the north and eastern parts of the country.

In the process, Sri Lanka succeeded in strengthening its good relations with India and bettered relations between the two countries on a firm footing.

The manifesto acknowledged that the basis of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement is the geopolitics of this region.

The manifesto further said cessation of hostilities and putting an end to violence is an essential precondition for the restoration of law and order in northeastern Sri Lanka.

Party Official Assassinated; JVP Suspected
BK2110051388 Hong Kong AFP in English 0451 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] Colombo, Oct 21 (AFP)—Gunmen assassinated a leading Sri Lankan ruling party official as he drove out of his home here Friday, police and party sources said.

Tudor Keerthinanda, a member of the policymaking Executive Committee of the United National Party (UNP), was killed instantly, police said. His wife and driver were seriously wounded.

UNP sources said the attack was believed to be the work of the Sinhalese militant Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP or People's Liberation Front).

The assassination came a day after the government announced a one week unilateral truce with the group in a bid to end politically motivated killings and restore peace in the Indian Ocean island nation.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said the JVP was responsible for killing about 500 ruling party supporters, security personnel and other political rivals.

The JVP is violently opposed to the government and a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord aimed at ending a bloody Tamil separatist campaign and under which New Delhi has some 49,000 troops in the island's north and east.

Parliament Votes To Extend Emergency
BK2110112588 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 Oct 88

[Text] The motion to extend the emergency by a further month was approved in Parliament yesterday with a majority of 92 votes.

Ninety-five members voted for the motion, while 3 members voted against it. They were the MP's from Matugama, Kalawana, and Maharagama.